



Daily Report—

Latin America

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Daily Report

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Cuba

Commentary Examines Bush Remarks in USSR

PA3107230191 Havana Radio Havana Cuba
in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Commentary by Roberto Morejon]

[Text] When we invite a person who says he is our friend to our home, we expect him to be mannerly, discrete and tactful. We would be shocked and uncomfortable if our visitor began telling us how we should fix our home or relate to our neighbors. Many Soviet citizens must have been shocked and felt very uncomfortable when U.S. President Bush—invited by top USSR Government officials to sign the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty—gave them lessons on how to behave.

During his speech to Soviet intellectuals, who are a very special audience, the visitor discourteously pointed out to state officials that they must give the Baltic people the opportunity to peacefully choose their future. Bush's words impinged on a very delicate and sensitive matter because a civil war could occur if all the parties involved do not reach a satisfactory agreement. When a visitor who has the standing of Bush and who flirts with President Mikhail Gorbachev, as well as with Boris Yeltsin and the leaders of the Baltic Republics, makes such deliberate comments, it can be said that his statements are, at the very least, an undesirable interference.

Bush also told the Soviets that Moscow's attitude in the Persian Gulf conflict was appropriate and that the White House wanted to establish an international cooperation program under these premises. That is to say, full agreement and support of Washington's actions at the UN Security Council.

The U.S. President, however, could not finish his speech without making reference to Cuba, which is a thorn in his side. Although 10 million Cubans are far from being a danger to the biggest capitalist power in the world, U.S. statesmen, especially Bush and Reagan, cannot sleep comfortably if they do not make brusque remarks about Cuba. Bush told the Soviets, without any qualms, that their military aid to the Caribbean island should be suspended because Fidel Castro is isolated, refuses to accept democracy, and does not want to implement the USSR's reforms. These tired statements deserve to be ignored. His statements, however, were a rude attempt to dictate the way the Soviets should conduct their foreign ties with Cuba.

In Moscow, Bush mentioned some of the requirements for the new world order he is promoting. He said foreign governments must act according to the archaic dictates of the White House residents who, incidentally, are opposed to plurality. In regard to Cuba, the U.S. President implied that it was necessary for it to change in favor of capitalism, although it has been consistently rejected by most Cubans. As is his custom, Bush did not acknowledge the Cuban's

firm determination to defend themselves. It is a pity that the U.S. President made the same gross mistake in Washington and in Moscow.

Commentaries View First Ibero-American Summit

U.S. Reaction to Cuba

FL3107150491 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Lazaro Barredo commentary: "The Tantrum Option"]

[Text] Have you seen in the cartoons when Bugs Bunny arrives unexpectedly at the bullring and the huge bull gets angry, snorts like a train, and begins a wild race toward his contender? Well, if you have seen it you may have a slight idea about how U.S. leaders are reacting regarding Cuba after the success of the Guadalajara Summit. In four or five days, this little island proved that so much scheming and the desire for retaliation by high-level U.S. officials is nothing more than evidence of how much the Cuban Revolution's moral strength, which does not yield to anything, hurts.

It shows how the imperialists do not forgive us for having the desire for self-determination. Last week, the U.S. Senate approved two conditioning amendments as part of their powerful carrot or stick philosophy. One conditions the status of most favored nation to China if it does not reduce its trade and other types of support to Cuba. The other, conditions U.S. financial assistance to the Soviet Union if it ends what they call Soviet economic and military aid to our country.

In the meantime, President Bush, has made repeated remarks that he will pressure Mikhail Gorbachev during the summit that began today [as heard] in Moscow. In his arrogant statements made today, he asked the USSR to considerably reduce its relations with the island. The announcements made by the President have been covered with thorns and antagonisms provided by the hawk General Colin Powell, who has also made a number of threats. He says the Caribbean island is the only state in the American Continent that has not found the road to democracy. The very illustrious adviser for national security, Brent Scowcroft, wants to imitate the "Godfather" movie when he treats the Soviets as if they were fourth class leaders and tells them that Godfather George Bush is going to make them an offer they cannot refuse.

The surprising fact is that this language, so proper of [words indistinct] on gunboats, is very revealing when a White House official, who asked to remain anonymous, told the press the reason for all this commotion. Note that Cuba continues being a domestic policy matter for the United States because it cannot have a hostile government less than 150 km from Florida. Do you see?

For the United States, we are a matter of domestic policy. In other words, for us, we are not a country, we are not a state, we are not a republic. They continue to have the false illusion that they will be able to continue

considering us an appendix. This is a revolution that does not give up or sell itself. You can imagine what we would be if we yielded to these tramps who cannot acknowledge us.

With this kind of mentality, could you imagine the level of barbarity our life would reach if we gave up just a little bit of our self-determination and national independence? Our firmness, which we have maintained with sacrifices, has not been in vain when one can see how the failed modern version of the ripe fruit policy results in impotence and how, with its arrogance, Washington resorts to tantrums.

U.S. Foreign Policy

FL3107171191 Havana Tele Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1152 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Good morning friends. According to reports, U. S. President George Bush has been visiting the Soviet Union for the past two days. He spoke yesterday at the International Relations Institute in Moscow. His speech was broadcast live to the United States by the TV channel CNN.

In reference to Cuba, the U.S. President indicated that our country is completely isolated at the present time, isolated from the international community and isolated in the continent. Because of his comments, we want to talk about the Guadalajara Summit—the summit of Ibero American leaders—although it ended a few days ago.

The summit's historic significance contradicts the words of Mr. Bush. The fact that this summit was held was a defeat for the U.S. foreign policy and even more of a defeat to its Latin American policies. When numerous chiefs of state or government express the desire for Latin American integration as a necessary occurrence, in reality they are implicitly questioning the policies of the United States, especially the policies of President Bush. We are referring specifically to the Initiatives of the Americas based on bilateral pacts that specifically seek ways to prevent the integration of Latin America.

Within this framework, friends, repercussions from the summit are still being felt in spite of the fact that big international news agencies never cover this type of meeting because it does not suit them and they simply try to minimize them. This has not only happened with summits such as the one in Guadalajara but with other important meetings such as those of Nonaligned Movement's heads of state.

Let us remember, friends, that considering the wave of neoliberal ideas that has gone around part of the world, especially in our continent—which has not been spared—the United States first tried to isolate Cuba from the summit. Later, it tried to keep Cuba at the sidelines by using strong pressure. But unfortunately for them, none of this happened. The need to pursue unity

in order to confront the current world economic and political challenges had a broad consensus. Cuba's willingness to decisively cooperate to achieve the objective of unity in the continent became evident.

Much can be argued about this supposed isolation, friends, that Mr. Bush was to attribute to us. Aside from its current problems, our country has much to show Latin America and the world, even in these extremely difficult times in which we find ourselves today. I wanted to give you an example. Speaking during the opening session of the Sao Paulo forum held in June—where delegates and representatives from 22 countries met—Inacio da Silva, Lula, president of the Brazilian Workers' Party, indicated that during a tour he had just finished through Europe, many of the people with whom he had spoken to in the old continent acknowledged that Cuba—our country—was distinguished as being the only one in Latin America where there was no poverty.

Regarding this apparent U.S. concern for Latin America, it is appropriate to note that in the last OAS meeting, Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, explained the decision of his government—listen to this—to work jointly with their hemisphere counterparts in confronting problems such as drugs, pollution, immigration, and arms race but he said nothing regarding the foreign debt, exchange of technology, funds for development. These my friends, are really the most pressing problems in Latin America. They are also some of the problems that unite us most in the continent. As for the Guadalajara summit, it was proof of this need, of this union, and it showed that our country is not in the least isolated. It is evident, Mr. Bush, that we are part of the continent. [end recording]

PRC Sports Official Arrives for Pan-Am Games

FL3107154791 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba
Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Excerpt] This afternoon, Wu Shaozu, minister in charge of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission of the PRC, arrived in Cuba at the invitation of the INDER [National Institute for Sports, Physical Education, and Recreation]. The Chinese sports official was welcomed at the airport by INDER President Conrado Martinez Corona who gave the visitor a detailed briefing of the Pan-American Games which will begin in Havana on 2 August.

For his part, Wu Shaozu expressed the certainty that the games will be a great success and talked about some of his country's experiences during the organization of the past Asian Games. The Chinese leader called for the strengthening of sports ties between the two countries.

[Begin Wu recording in Chinese with simultaneous Spanish translation] We are very interested in holding exchanges with Cuba in the field of sports. Based on this principle, we are going to have talks with the president of INDER. We can tell you that there is no obstacle between us. The only obstacle is the great distance that separates us. [end recording]

Also this afternoon, Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson arrived in our country at the invitation of the Pan-American Games Organizing Committee. Pedro Chavez, president of the Provincial Assembly of the People's Government in Havana City, welcomed the visitor at the Jose Marti International Airport. During his stay in our country, Maynard Jackson will participate in some Pan-American Games official activities for which he had words of praise. [passage omitted] [end recording]

*** Western Army General on Special Period**

91CA0175A Havana GRANMA in Spanish
14 Jun 91 p 2

[Interview with Division General Ramon Pardo Guerra by Angel Perez Ruiz on 30th anniversary of Western Army; place and date not given; first two paragraphs GRANMA introduction]

[Text] Today marks the 30th anniversary of the Western Army, whose powerful concentration of forces and equipment has the mission of defending the western region of the country from a possible enemy military attack.

On this illustrious occasion, Division General Ramon Pardo Guerra, second in command and founder of the command in question, agreed to speak with GRANMA to answer a few questions about preparations for the defense of this Army and the territory it occupies.

[Perez Ruiz] How do you view the results of the Western Army's military activity 30 years after its founding?

[Pardo Guerra] Logically enough, we have in recent years concentrated our main efforts on preparing to defend the troops and the people, with satisfactory results. This was recently confirmed when we were awarded the status of Command Ready for Defense in the First Phase, after which every province received that recognition.

We are involved in intensive training, but we do not neglect our duty of improving living and working conditions of personnel, the material study base, rational use and maintenance of weapons and technology, the strengthening of military discipline, regulations, and other aspects.

The performance and participation of officials, officers, and staffs in training and instruction have improved in recent periods. For example, in the area of tactical preparations, all firing exercises were successfully completed with proper application of the concepts of the War of All the People.

Our excellent material study base ensures the training of troops and the people, which in turn saves time and resources. Worthy of note are the efforts made in this direction by the provinces, municipalities, and our territory's defense zones.

Proper conditions have been created in the main training grounds to facilitate instruction with substantial reductions in transport needs, for they have their own military technology and the logistical and combat support needed for training in the field.

Tens of thousands of our territory's finest have completed honorable internationalist missions in other brother nations, and the medals and decorations they wear speak eloquently about the courage demonstrated in performing this sacred duty.

Highly important tasks such as the Cuban Shield Maneuver, Operation Tribute, and the reception and rapid use of modern defensive means brought back from Angola upon the conclusion of Operation Carlota are also among the missions requiring the massive participation of our personnel and helping to strengthen our defensive capabilities.

Reservists, militiamen, and brigade members from our territory comprise a great defense potential, whose experience is combined with discipline and the assimilation of tasks during maneuvers, drills, defense days, and other activities in which they participate assiduously. In the case of the MTT [Territorial Troops Militia], this is shown in the significant percentage of classification of personnel.

In sum, I consider these results positive in the light of 30 years of military activity, and I am fully convinced that today more than ever, we are a much stronger army.

[Perez Ruiz] What work is being done by the command to face difficulties connected with the special period?

[Pardo Guerra] Above all, let us say that our efforts and creativity are aimed at preserving and even improving our preparations for defense and helping to provide experience in all units and territories.

At the beginning of the year, we developed a practical application class on work being done to face the special period. The class demonstrated the initiative, creativity, and ingenuity displayed by our soldiers, civilian workers, and personnel from the ANIR [National Association of Innovators and Efficiency Experts], BrJ [Technical Youth Brigades], and other territorial organs of the party and government to meet our needs and execute their defense tasks with many national and local solutions.

We are operating at high capacity with appreciable reductions in fuel consumption. At the same time, we are working hard to save on and recover equipment and supplies in terms of uniforms, provisions, medical services, and military transportation.

Over this five-year period, the Army's agricultural management has made gradual progress and in 1990, our production, enterprises, and farms were the most outstanding of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] in this sphere. We are creating the conditions for future self-sufficiency in terms of certain food sources.

We have enthusiastically embarked upon the task of planting energy-yielding forests and "green medicine" gardens in all military units in order to supply fuel and drugs difficult to obtain. It should also be noted that for some time, we have administered efficient and economic treatment to patients using traditional medicine and acupuncture, both of which have yielded promising results.

In general, we are taking our first steps applying the benefits of wind and solar energy and biomass so as to seek alternatives in view of fuel shortages that might occur. Likewise, we are stepping up our use of horses and bicycles for internal camp missions so as to conserve equipment and fuel for combat actions.

We have taken measures which, in addition to saving on resources, enable us to improve our defense readiness. These include walking to and from training grounds and areas, which practice also enables us to develop physical fitness and introduce complex tactical methods along the way, thereby giving training a more realistic, live nature.

[Perez Ruiz] What prospects do you foresee for the Western Army in the future?

[Pardo Guerra] We want to elevate the Army to a higher level of efficiency, training, and defense readiness.

At the present time, we are on a very sound footing politically, morally, and in terms of discipline due to work done by our officials, political workers, and party, UJC [Union of Young Communists], and labor organizations.

We shall continue to move forward in our socialist emulation, particularly in our Army units, for it has played an important role in motivating troops and encouraging them to perform their main tasks.

We have unshakable willingness and readiness to continue to work tenaciously to eliminate any deficiencies and continue to make progress, even if the situation becomes more complex. However, above all, we maintain our firm determination to obtain the rank of the Best FAR Command this year.

At the same time, we shall continue to give full support to the tasks which the Command and the party have set for us, as in the case of the recent mobilization of several thousand soldiers for the tuber and produce harvests in Pinar del Rio and La Habana.

Today, all of officials, soldiers, and civilian workers have a perfect understanding of the special times in which the country is living and are convinced that with the strategy drafted by our revolutionary leadership, we shall emerge victorious, led by the party and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, united more than ever with the courageous people from whom we spring.

No one should harbor the slightest doubt about our capacity and willingness to defend the conquests of the revolution in every sphere: economic, political, ideological, and military, if necessary, or about the fact that we shall do so as worthy soldiers of this Army, heir to the

traditions of all Cubans and the Rebel Army, Bay of Pigs soldiers, the fight against bandits, October Crisis, and our glorious internationalist missions.

* Division General Describes Angolan Experience

91CA0180A Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish
24 May 91 pp 40-44

[Interview with Division General Raul Menendez Tomasevich by Carlos Rivera; place and date not given]

[Text] Slightly hunched over, he would still seem to be bearing the burden of a backpack and the terrible distress of nights spent exposed to the elements with no cover other than the wet ground itself or a jerry-rigged hammock. His close-shaven head reveals him for the guerrilla soldier he will always be and in all truthfulness, my guest is a soldier to the core, a fact reflected in his hands, which know the earth and the sun and the feel of a weapon.

Despite uniform, stars, and white olive branches on his shoulders, Division General Raul Menendez Tomasevich still acts like any ordinary mortal. A dyed-in-the-wool Cuban, he never forgets the sayings or familiarity of his native Santiago. Or his peasant ancestry.

A glance at his military biography, replete with accomplishments, explains why he came down out of the mountains with the rank of major to be entrusted with the mission of helping a revolutionary movement in Africa and another in Latin America. The decade of the '60's was his internationalist debut.

From his revolutionary zeal springs the soldier of the underground struggle, head of the Rebel Army troops, one of the founders and strategists of the fight against the bandits, the high command of a militia unit during the confrontation with the Bay of Pigs mercenaries, a military leader during the October Crisis, and finally, head of the mission of our internationalist troops in Angola. He recalls his tour of duty in that African nation:

For many Cubans and for many reasons, Angola became a second homeland. This feeling is even stronger in those who completed more than one internationalist mission in that brother country. In my case, I served three missions in the People's Republic of Angola (RPA).

"I was assigned my first mission in April of 1977. General Raul Castro, minister of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces], notified me of the appointment. I was asked whether I was willing to accept it and they were particularly concerned about how I would take it psychologically. My response was obviously positive in every sense and, during that meeting, I received a call from the commander in chief, who was also concerned about how I received the task. After that telephone conversation, I went with Raul to receive my instructions directly from Fidel.

"That and all my other assignments signified one of the highest incentives granted by the top leadership of the

revolution and party. From the military standpoint, it was a chance to apply our humble knowledge, but above all, acquire a rich fund of experience. In human terms, it put to the test one of the noblest sentiments of mankind: total dedication to the cause of the dignity and welfare of mankind, even at the price of endangering one's own life."

History and Memories

[Rivera] There are many fine anecdotes, stories, and memories concerning your military service in Angola, some of them so exaggerated by your own subordinates that they border on legend. To what do you attribute this? Of your entire military service in Angola, what single thing do you recall with the greatest joy and the greatest sorrow?

[Tomasevich] A Cuban soldier is always prepared for sacrifice, boldness, and heroic acts and accepts no other form of conduct than a dignified, courageous attitude toward whatever happens. Being the leader of such men requires great commitment. One cannot fail them and must constantly strive to achieve their level. For that reason, victories are often attributed to a given leader, when in actuality they are only made possible by the self-sacrifice and integrity of a group. This is not only true in my case, but in the case of all those men on every level who have ever been leaders and tried to do their duty with dignity.

Now then, why are Cuban soldiers like this? Why do their officers act in this way? This is the fruit and reflection of the education and personal example of our commander in chief and the minister of the FAR. The historic roots of this conduct lie in the firmness of our nation's heroes and martyrs, who since 1868 have forged the character, spirit, and courage of Cubans.

During my tour of duty in Angola, there were several events that made me happy or sad and had a profound impact. I would not dare to describe some as being more important than others. One sad event was the South African attack on the camp of Namibian refugees in Cassinga in May of 1978, during which they murdered over 600 persons, mainly women, children, and old people. Sixteen Cubans lost their lives in that attack, fighting with the forces that immediately came into the camp to stop them from finishing off the wounded.

At the end of that same year, we rejoiced at the results of operations conducted by the FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] in Cuando-Cubango and of measures taken jointly with our troops in Cunene, foiling execution of a combined plan drafted by South Africa and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] to take control of the capital of Cuando-Cubango and part of Cunene. These actions also enabled the Angolan command to seize a substantial amount of materiel from the enemy.

Scale of Values

[Rivera] From the human standpoint, could you define what motivates a man to leave his country, fight for another nation, sacrifice his time and even his life for other causes, and be separated from his family?

[Tomasevich] Equality, freedom, and independence are concepts that make up a scale of values and, to a great extent, a *raison d'être*. They are unquestionably the reasons behind the greater dedication which we call internationalism. We have been imbued with these convictions since Martí, who said one had to have faith in the improvement of man, and they are consolidated and embodied in Che, who elevates them to a higher stage of the human race.

[Rivera] After over 15 years of a Cuban presence in Angola, what in your opinion is the balance of that effort?

[Tomasevich] The presence of Cuban internationalist troops in the RPA helped achieve and consolidate that nation's independence and achieve the independence of Namibia, a harsh struggle in those difficult years. With it, we dealt a devastating blow to the most shameful regime in the world, that of South Africa, the only country on earth that maintains racism as a government policy and based on which 5 million Whites subjugate 20 million Blacks, and 3 million mestizos and Asians.

From now on, African nations will be freer and more independent, and we have shown that socialism is a vital force and that internationalism will continue to be the most powerful tool that people have in their fight against oppression, colonialism, and imperialist attacks.

By virtue of our positions, we have demonstrated that Cubans are capable of fighting with heroism whenever it is a just cause, even in other lands. This reaffirms that if the imperialist enemy dares to invade our soil, he will be irremediably doomed to defeat.

Comradeship in the Jungles

[Rivera] In your opinion, what were the main virtues that were demonstrated by Cuban soldiers in Angola? What do you think it gave our soldiers?

[Tomasevich] Cuban soldiers reaffirmed that the more difficult the war situation is, the more they grow and overcome obstacles, however complex they may be. Their virtues include staunchness, loyalty, and courage. There, they sharpened their wisdom and decision-making ability. I recall that in December 1978, UNITA mobilized over 300 troops to attack forces guarding the bridge over the Culva River. Of the 50 soldiers there, 10 were Cubans. The fighting began at 0500 and the heaviest attacks came at about 0900. They fought all day long and managed to drive off the enemy, inflicting 50 casualties and the seizing large quantities of weapons and munitions.

The morale and spirit of our soldiers never declined for a second and although there were very difficult

moments, no one ever considered surrender or defeat. There was even one rocket launcher operator who fired 25 rounds and finished the battle bleeding from the ears!

On one occasion, following an ambush in Menongue during Campaign Olivo, the troops were totally scattered and one Cuban soldier got lost in the jungle. He met up with a UNITA soldier, whom he forced to lead him to the town. It took four or five days to arrive. He finally entered Menongue alone and I went to talk to him, because I found out he had been helped by an enemy soldier. He confessed that he had let him go because UNITA helped him to survive in the jungle. I told him I would have done the same thing and applauded his humane gesture and his sincerity with me.

[Rivera] How would you describe relations between the officers and their subordinates during the most difficult times of the war?

[Tomasevich] Not only in the most complex circumstances, but always, they were characterized by respect, cooperation, comradeship, and obedience. There was great brotherhood among us. We were like one big family and the officers associated with their men. This explains why one out of every three casualties was an officer.

Evidence of this fellowship could be seen when we came back to Cuba on furlough bringing hundreds of letters for the families of our subordinates. Speaking for myself, I liked to deliver these in person in order to give that satisfaction to the parents and wives of soldiers.

No Praise Bestowed Lightly

[Rivera] From a personal and human standpoint, what lessons has that war taught?

[Tomasevich] It taught me valuable military, political, and ideological lessons. The type of enemy, features of the terrain, climate, makeup of our troops, and other aspects of the situation led us to implement very singular and flexible tactical and operational concepts, all of which contributed to the development of the thought and creative application of military procedures.

Politically and ideologically speaking, not only did we solidify our concepts, but we acquired a much broader outlook about our world, particularly the African continent and the impact of international reaction on it. In human terms, I felt strengthened because the personal confirmation of how colonialism and imperialism have enslaved and, to a great extent, murdered the African population is the best explanation of why internationalism is necessary, how useful our presence there was, and how noble was the cause we were defending outside of Cuba and from that very place. When you can count every bone in the body of a 10-year-old child, your heart bleeds, it aches. Never before have intelligence and arms been used to exterminate all the evils in the world.

[Rivera] How did your family accept your dedication and separation? How has this affected your relationship with your children? Are any of your children internationalists?

[Tomasevich] My family took a positive attitude toward my acceptance of these missions. It had a decisive impact on my children's upbringing and character because two of them have completed five internationalist missions in the RPA and on a few occasions, we were there at the same time. I felt very safe when they were there because they are very courageous and have great enthusiasm and fine military training. I am not saying this just because they are my children. Truly, I do not bestow praise lightly.

I recall once in Menongue, when UNITA started to shell the airport with mortars. I was riding in a transport vehicle and there was a reconnaissance tank which we ordered to move out ahead. The driver was nowhere in sight. When I reached the spot, I went up into the tower to get a better look at what was happening and saw the BRDM [Soviet amphibious scout car] firing with the machine gun. When it was all over, Raulito emerged from the hatch.

Another time, we were planning an operation using transport helicopters and one radioman was missing. Without thinking twice, my son Jorge took my radio and went. When I started to ask for it, they told me who had it. He was already involved in the operation.

[Rivera] We know that even though we are motivated by lofty, altruistic principles, there are times when we are discouraged and depressed. Did this happen in Angola? What did you do about it?

[Tomasevich] It is true that there were difficult times involving complicated tasks and misunderstandings, but I can tell you categorically that at no time did I ever feel discouragement or despair. I never allowed myself that luxury. When I have to deal with a problem, my method is to study the situation in depth in order to find all possible solutions and try to convince those who have them or handle them myself if they are up to me. Being understanding and patient with others and unrelentingly tenacious until the goal is achieved yields excellent results for me.

Return Home and Hopes

[Rivera] What, in your opinion, is our most important internationalist task at the present time? What course will the internationalism of the Cuban people take?

[Tomasevich] Our commander in chief has defined this period as the most important one in the history of our country and one of the most crucial for the world. It will determine whether all the revolutionary banners will be folded up or whether the counterrevolution will successfully gain control of the world for a very long time to come. We have had the honor of sustaining these banners, of defending them and winning. That is why in

Cuba today, we are waging the most important internationalist struggle. In addition to the fact that we are resisting, we are fighting for economic development, the strengthening of our revolution, and socialism.

The return of our soldiers with their technology and weapons ready will be very useful in strengthening the MTT [Territorial Troops Militia] and our units and in fortifying the country's defense. In this situation of the special period, we shall have an injection of soldiers very well trained militarily and ready to serve wherever they are assigned. They will come prepared to work in the food and production program. To work for development and make the country more economically independent is now our principal internationalist task.

[Rivera] Throughout life, we all have times of happiness, uncertainty, hope, pain, and reaffirmation. If you were given the opportunity to go back and redo your tour of duty in Angola, what would you like to change or erase from that historic memory?

[Tomasevich] Strategically speaking, I would do the same thing I did or tried to do, while considering the fact that many elements did not depend solely on our actions or desires. Tactically speaking, I would change certain things, intervening earlier, based on our current experience. For example, in 1982, we had the idea of forming units to protect supply columns. The first was called the "We Shall Overcome Company." They had orders to guard the columns and protect them from ambush.

You know that the protection and safety of the convoys was the responsibility of the transport trucks themselves, which were virtually defenseless. That is why we began to armorplate the doors and front of the trucks. We also installed four machine-gun bays on certain vehicles to increase our firepower. These units had their own tactics and relied on them. Their soldiers became so skillful that they paralyzed enemy actions. They were proud of belonging to the convoy.

Advice for Attaining Rank of General

[Rivera] In all wars, people die. Was the loss of any soldier particularly difficult for you?

[Tomasevich] The death of any soldier was what hurt us the most. In some cases, the suffering was greater because we knew them personally, whether or not one was in the RPA at the time. I particularly mourned the loss of Generals Diaz Arguelles and Cruz Bourzac, but also that of comrades who perished in a helicopter crash in July 1981 (a helicopter crashed into the car in which I was riding). Lieutenant Colonels Dario Calzadilla and Jaspert Surita and Lieutenants Rufino Mustelier and Felino Ferreira were also killed. They served with me for many years. I am naming only a few, but there were others whom I knew personally and for whom I had great esteem.

[Rivera] What advice would you give to a young Cuban dreaming of one day becoming a division general?

[Tomasevich] Honesty and modesty should lead him to dream about becoming one of the nation's best soldiers, for me, that has always been the most dignified, honorable, and important tasks, and I never stopped to think about whether or not I would ever become a general. Only then would I tell him that to the aforementioned personal qualities, he should add loyalty to the FAR, the party, and the people and that, in everything he does life, he should apply the ideas of Marti and Fidel.

* Distribution Chain Awaits Large Grain Shipment

91CA0178A Havana GRANMA in Spanish
19 Jun 91 p 2

[Article by Emilio del Barrio Menendez]

[Text] The grain distribution chain has now been mobilized and will be put to the test of its maximum efficiency in handling a heavy shipment of grain for human and animal consumption whose delivery has already begun and which will continue until July.

The tonnage scheduled to arrive at Cuban ports will exceed the total volume delivered during the first five months of the year. From this one can infer the accumulated shortage of grain needed to manufacture livestock feed, with its inevitable impact on production (weight), an irrecoverable loss.

Whence the importance of getting such products into circulation as rapidly as possible, moving the grain from ship holds to livestock and poultry raising facilities.

Timely delivery of the proper feed is fundamental so that hens will produce eggs according to a production schedule and so that chicks will develop properly for meat. Any interruption in the supply of feed throws the whole system off and losses cannot be recovered, as occurred at the beginning of the year.

A supreme effort is required for this reason and because of the overriding need to prevent a single ship bound for port and carrying part of the shipment from being stranded for any reason whatsoever, thus causing the country an additional outlay of currency.

If normal production levels are maintained at specialized Minal [Ministry of Food Industry] terminals and conventional docks where grain is unloaded, the shipment will result in a veritable assembly line of ships waiting to anchor, which in monetary terms will cost millions for demurrage.

For these very reasons, all links in the grain distribution chain are determined to improve efficiency in unloading, transport, and the reception of products. At the same time, additional storage capacity is being sought, for it would guarantee the success of the operation.

Independently of decisions made, which also include new port facades at main terminals and the possibility of using available capacity at the Carupano and Mariel ports for the operation, the temporary use of unconventional storage

facilities also requires the abandonment of any work schedule that might stand in the way of prompt handling.

At the same time, auxiliary services, such as repairs, tugboat operations, supplying ships, and so on, must go like clockwork so that no ship will waste a single minute.

Starting today, the grain distribution chain must work like an organic whole and with the highest degree of cooperation so as to prevent any vessel from being forced into demurrage.

The basic watchword for which there is no alternative must be to expedite the entire operation as efficiently as possible. If every individual does his job, motivated by the desire to overcome, this battle for our economy will also be won.

* Film Critic Faults 'Alice in Wondertown'

91CA0177A Havana *GRANMA* in Spanish
19 Jun 91 p 3

[Commentary by Roxana Polio]

[Text] These lines are written about the Cuban film entitled "Alice in Wondertown" based on a script from the group *Nos y Otros* in consultation with film producer and narrator Jesus Diaz and under the general direction of Daniel Diaz Torres, who made the feature films "The Peasant" and "Another Woman."

The stated purpose of the film is an accurate portrayal of our situation by means of an exaggerated and annoying concentration of ethical distortions in the behavior of individuals—it be they called double standard, bureaucracy, cowardliness, opportunism, or pretense—as generators of serious evils in the various realms of our social administration, from culinary services to spheres of leadership and including education, public health, and tourism.

I have therefore reflected on the film with profound interest and painstaking attention.

I also did so because it reminded me of a UNEAC [National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists] debate years ago. Based on several articles of specialized criticism a dialogue ensued on the reasons for the cautious, paralyzing atmosphere that invaded Cuban cinema in the early '80's. There was much talk at the time about the challenges of an art and image committed to the revolution, talk of leaving behind any so-called "responsible inhibitions" in order to make way for a disturbing type of cinema which, immersed in the daily routine, would, by virtue of its wisdom and errors, contribute to a possible solution, to the extent that art can and should do so.

However, despite a fine cast of actors and outstanding visual effects, "Alice in Wondertown" amounts to no more than a sarcastic conglomeration of disasters, a montage of inadequacies and defects which, when put together, sow confusion and discouragement. It is an adulterated, arbitrary combination for which various

techniques are employed: the absurd, the grotesque, irony, fright, and political satire, in an attempt to draw a parallel between reality and unreality.

Alice enters and leaves the former, but most of the drama and the main conflict of the protagonist take place in the latter: A young drama instructor who happens to be the only character not attacked by the film tries, with "a bold step forward," to put an end to all the corruption of an apparently indeterminate place with no external enemy in sight. A kind of branch of hell on earth to which all the evils and misfits that could possibly exist have been exiled.

In the words of the filmmaker himself, what he was trying to do was to place emphasis on a story which, situated "one foot away from reality," would recreate and hyperbolize it so as to act as a kind of "shock therapy" for the viewer and consequently give rise to critical reflection on the problems thus surveyed. It was not his purpose, he said at a press conference held before the premiere, to develop the film as a symbolic crossword puzzle born of ambiguity. Or even a film with any great conceptual message.

And yet, that which in my opinion does come through in the film is precisely the symbolic language and conceptual message evident on every level. As a result, nothing in the film is gratuitous or accidental; on the contrary. Behind the names of specific characters, the clothes they wear, and countless details of the atmosphere created as well as the dialogue, mockery, conceptual references, and bitter irony shine through. The same is true of specific episodes and anecdotes which, without any justification in the dramatic structure, can only be understood as biased suggestions, verdicts, or apocalyptic judgments.

Nor is the use of allusion, exaggeration, and symbols reproachable as a methodology, any more than that of satire and humorous subtleties used to delve into matters of social, historical, or political complexity. Provided that—and I emphasize this—one assume, in good artistic and political conscience, the risks of the multiple interpretations which symbols applied to art presume, the responsibility entailed in making a fictional work about the imperfections of our society throughout the 30 years of the revolution.

In other words, cinema interested in social criticism is always political cinema.

From this starting point and considering that "Alice in Wondertown" is doomed to a process of metaphorical unveiling, deciphering of images, and a veritable striptease from beginning to end, one is forced to make the comparison proposed by the filmmakers between our reality today, with many of its problems solved—despite the terrible and bitter situation in the world today—and others that are not, and the fictitious, unreal world, according to their claims, which is presented as nauseating, sordid, indecent, and fiendish. It is a spectacle which, while claiming to make us laugh at ourselves,

exhibits an outrageous pessimism that forces one to give up any attempt at salvation.

One should therefore not be surprised at a comparison with the work of George Orwell, a British writer who some four decades ago made himself famous by forging in his novels the literary paradigm of political disillusionment, thus becoming a veritable classic in the gloomy portrayal of 20th-century revolutions. By means of a character very often referred to nowadays, Orwell shows how men trying to free themselves from one form of slavery succumb to another that is worse. He used this proposition to become part of the most reactionary literary school, based on the dubious merit of providing a very elaborate portrayal of how the aspiration to equality among men and the idea of putting an end to wealth accumulated by one minority at the expense of another inexorably turns into precisely the opposite.

In "Alice in Wondertown," the therapeutic effects of satire, attacking and raising one's voice against our shortcomings, emerge with such brutality that no room is left for hope. The supposed "shock therapy" operates, in my opinion, as an expression of what is no longer possible, stating that there is no way out of the trap into which the main character has fallen, along with the whole flock that inhabits the satanic town. Hell does not deserve to be saved. The persons banished to "Wondertown," from the cynical head of the sanatorium, the Chinese man lying in ambush, the repressive teacher, the perverted children, the deluded drama teacher, and a priest who serves—and justifies—the government more than God, have only one alternative: to flee.

The terrifying stampede may then be the social thesis of the film.

At the end, when the "water from little balloons" invades everything like an endemic malady, the nightmare becomes one with reality, which is the epilogue that Alice proposes to us.

It is the anticipation of a crisis that will undoubtedly be hailed by our enemies and those already joining the band of cowards.

It would be a lie to deny that our society contains defects and that others have developed over the years. It is true that laziness, inefficiency, the thirst for profit, and opportunism still exist, just as it is also true that this film has no lack of ingenious dialogues, well-drawn situations, and characters that are both contemporary and familiar. Likewise, everything heroic and all the extraordinary and exceptional merits of our people are ignored.

It would also be an enormous lie to say that all the evils depicted in the film are generated solely by socialism, or to deny that other fiendish characters are missing from "Wondertown." For example, the bearers of a presumably radical thought, for whom the revolutionary masses are a flock, who try to contribute to the social effort with a work of hypercritical rhetoric just as repetitive and boring as the one they

claim to condemn, and who foster a defeatism that paralyzes and kills any revolutionary initiative.

The fact is that in this film, that which could have led to reflection becomes incommunicability and paralysis, alienation, rejection, and repudiation.

In today's world, I do not think that anyone with the slightest glimmer of intelligence would demand an innocuous, inane, or virginal cinema. No one could impugn the use of art as a critical expression or underestimate the risks to which the artist is exposed. Nevertheless, the challenge of the project does not exonerate the creator when he errs, even when his work attempts to contribute to human improvement in a social and political context as complex as the one in which we live.

Nor, let it be understood, is it a matter of appealing for circumstantial art practiced in terms of a situation. Nor can it ignore that situation or minimize it in order to give us a demotivating, moralizing work worthy of our worst enemies.

We know that in the times in which we live, our ideological panorama is made up of many reflections and even doubts responding to a sincere desire for improvement, both marked by impatience. However, it is also a well-known fact that this amalgam, filled with nuances, is also combined with another belonging to those whose conclusion is the inviability of socialism, those who advance the hypothesis that the socialist experiment cannot be saved, who allege that its just and insurmountable objectives are unrealistic, that we have no other alternative than to allow ourselves to be enslaved by the empire.

In the face of such complexity, any work of art which either by accident or intentionally promotes defeatism, despair, and bitterness, is indefensible.

"Alice in Wondertown" is an example of this by virtue of its exaggerated pessimism, which is overflowing with fictitious characters that lend themselves to many interpretations and deliberately lead to all manner of speculation, something which ends up reducing the historic purpose of the revolution to a malevolent caricature.

For all these reasons, I would dare to assert that "Alice in Wondertown" owes much to a type of cinema that from the very beginning was enriched by examples of singular mastery in a time of self-criticism, demonstrating that our future will not be decided by the unfeeling or those who promote skepticism and a lack of confidence in a revolutionary process which, with all its imperfections, has enabled us to live in one of the most dignified, most human, cleanest, and fairest places on earth.

Barbados

Supreme Court Winds Up BCCI Local Operation

FL3107230491 Bridgetown CANA in English
2213 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 31, CANA—The Barbados Supreme Court on Wednesday wound up the local operations of Bank of Credit and Commerce International [BCCI] on an application by the island's central bank which had ordered the BCCI branch here closed on July 5. Chief Justice Sir Denys Williams ruled that the business which is in receivership, be wound up and that two custodians appointed by the court explore any offers for purchase of the bank and its building to enhance the possibility of recovery for depositors.

Caribbean Commercial Bank, owned by Trinidad's Colonial Life Insurance Company, has offered to buy the BCCI here and the Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society is also said to be interested in a buyout.

When the Barbados branch, a subsidiary of the Cayman Islands BCCI operation, was closed on July 5, deposits totalled Bds 67 million dollars (one Bds dollar = 50 U.S. cents). Under central bank regulations, 30 per cent of deposits are guaranteed. Some 16 million dollars are owed to the Barbados BCCI by foreign banks.

While the central bank's lawyers argued for a winding up of the BCCI, depositors called for a sale. Both options were possible under the recently amended Banking Act of Barbados. Sir Denys said that after hearing all the evidence, the strongest case had been made out for the compulsory winding up of the local BCCI. He appointed Robert Bourque of Deloitte and Touche and Grenville Phillips of Coopers and Lybrand as joint custodians.

The central bank in its affidavit had asked that the bank be wound up and that chartered accountant Ken Hewitt be appointed custodian but the chief justice in his judgement said that while all three men are suitably qualified for the job, he thinks that Bourque's association with the receiver in the Cayman Islands will allow for an easier flow of communication and the recovery of funds from overseas.

He said that since Deloitte and Touche had been appointed as receiver in a number of jurisdictions, this should allow the court to be kept up to date of events internationally. Sir Denys told the custodians that they are answerable to the court and must protect the interest of the depositors. He said that in carrying out their duties, the custodians must explore the various possibilities of disposing of BCCI's assets including selling the portfolio to another institution.

Sir Denys also ruled that no funds are to be sent overseas from the Barbados branch of the BCCI without the permission of the court and that depositors or creditors can bring a case to court if they are not satisfied with any aspect of the bank's winding up.

An auditor examining the accounts of the bank said its book value was about 99 million dollars while the estimated net realisable value is about 43 million dollars. The book value of liabilities and capital is put at 92 million dollars and the estimated net value is almost 68 million dollars.

The central bank took over management and control of the local BCCI in line with similar action in Britain and the Cayman Islands over charges of international fraud.

Tentative Loan Agreement Reached With IDB

FL3107204591 Bridgetown CANA in English
1939 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Report by Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 31, CANA—The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and Barbados have reached tentative agreement on a loan package of between U.S. 230 million and U.S. 250 million dollars for the next four years, an IDB spokesman said here Wednesday. Dr Euric Bobb, head of a visiting IDB mission which held talks with government officials, told reporters Barbados was also earmarked to receive U.S. 13 million dollars in IDB technical assistance, mostly grants, over the next two years.

The loan package, if disbursed in its entirety, would represent the highest amount of IDB lending to Barbados since the first loan approval in 1971. IDB lending to Barbados over the last 20 years has amounted to around U.S. 160 million dollars. However, Dr. Bobb, a former Trinidad and Tobago Central Bank Governor, said the amount of loan financing Barbados ultimately receives, "will depend on the evolution of the economy and the manner in which Barbados manages to readjust imbalances currently in the economy, especially the fiscal and balance of payments imbalances."

In this respect, he said the IDB's "highest priority" over the next year would be to work with the government within the framework of a "policy-based" loan of up to U.S. 60 million dollars, to support economic restructuring aimed at fostering an environment conducive to medium and long-term economic growth. Barbados is into the second straight year of economic contraction.

The policy-based loan, under which the IDB would supply money to the government based on the introduction of agreed policy changes, would work in concert with the government's soon-to-be-unveiled stabilisation programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Bobb said discussions were continuing with the government on specific policy measures. He said it was likely other multilateral lending agencies might join the IDB in cofinancing the structural adjustment programme for Barbados.

Revitalizing Barbados' export sectors through measures to help them regain lost competitiveness, is expected to

be a central aim of the economic adjustment programme. Enhancing Barbados' attractiveness to investment is expected to be another key goal.

The proposed IDB loans, expected to have a maturity of 20 to 25 years and carry an interest rate of 3 per cent, will finance projects in health, education, transportation, and coastal conservation. Sewerage treatment plants for the south and west coasts are included. A project under the technical assistance package provides for a comprehensive review of the government's deficit-plagued fiscal system. It includes a review of the tax system with a view to making changes, and an examination of expenditure management.

Bobb said the IDB would move quickly on this project as it was a key element in the government's stabilization programme over the next 12 months.

"We would hope to approve this technical cooperation and to have it in place in the course of 1992, as early as possible," he said. Estimated cost is from U.S. 1 million to U.S. 3 million dollars.

"We think we have tentatively agreed with the government on a programme which is quite appropriate to (Barbados') circumstances in its focus on policy change, in its effort to help provide foreign exchange in the short term while at the same time continuing investment in areas which are of highest priority to Barbados," Dr. Bobb said of the overall IDB aid package to Barbados for the next cycle.

Dominican Republic

Association Confirms End of Doctors' Strike

FL3107173891 Santo Domingo Radio-Television
Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT
31 Jul 91

[Text] Today at noon, the Dominican Medical Association confirmed that all its members will return to their public health posts. A long statement released by the professional organization asserts that beginning on 1 August at 0700, the doctors will return to work in hospitals, health centers, emergency rooms, etc. The decision was made as the national doctors' strike entered its fourth month. The strikers were making various demands. The stoppage affected all government health services.

The Dominican Medical Association explained that favorable agreements were reached through talks with the constitutional government and that this justified the end of the strike. The association statement listed numerous achievements. The end of the doctors' strike is announced in independent circles as a personal victory for Dr. Joaquin Balaguer, constitutional president of the republic. The president had promised to listen to the doctors' demands at the same time that he rejected concessions that were beyond the means of the state.

Union Leader Announces Strike Cancellation

FL3107223891 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias
in Spanish 0930 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Nelsy Lamar Molejos, secretary general of the United Confederation of Workers, has declared that President Joaquin Balaguer should not get too elated by the seeming victory achieved by the failure of the 72-hour general strike. She affirmed that there will be more battles until the government grants a salary increase of a 100 percent, reduces the price of essential goods, and resolves the problems plaguing the Santo Domingo Electric Company Worker's Union. Nelsy Lamar Molejos, a deputy of the Dominican Liberation Party, said that a battle has been lost but not the war.

[Begin Lamar recording] We are announcing to the country that as of this moment, 1000 [1400 GMT], the 72-hour general strike has been called off. The strike has failed due to the limited support it received, especially in Santo Domingo, the economic center of the nation. And because it has not achieved its goals. We praise the massive compliance of cities in the inner part of the country and peripheral areas of Santo Domingo. We advise the government not to think that our apparent failure is their victory. This is only one episode on the long trajectory to victory which is the destiny of our demands. The conditions that made it necessary to hold the previous strike are the same conditions that made it necessary to convene the 72-hour strike. [end recording]

Arrest, Repatriation of Haitians Resumes

FL3107184491 Santo Domingo Radio-Television
Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT
31 Jul 91

[Text] This morning, the Armed Forces resumed in the outskirts of Santo Domingo the operations in which Haitians are being repatriated, detained, and removed. The arrests are being conducted to repatriate to the neighboring country thousands of Haitian citizens who live illegally in the Dominican Republic. An authorized Armed Forces source said the arrests and repatriation of Haitians had been suspended because of the call for strike. A large number of military and police members were assigned to special patrolling and security services during the threat of national strike.

The Armed Forces and the Foreign Ministry announced that the repatriation program will continue in spite of any diplomatic recourse that may be attempted on behalf of the undocumented people. Early this morning, dozens of Haitians could be seen close to the Haitian Embassy where they were trying to get a safe passage to travel to the Haitian capital.

Japan Provides Aid to Radio-TV Dominicana

*FL3107190491 Santo Domingo Radio-Television
Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT
31 Jul 91*

[Text] Japan will provide the Dominican Republic with economic and technical assistance to revamp Radio-Television Dominicana with modern equipment. An agreement was signed yesterday at the Foreign Secretariat by Foreign Secretary Joaquin Ricardo and Japanese Ambassador Katsuhiko Tsunoda. According to the agreement, the Japanese Government will provide equipment and technical resources amounting to \$49 million. The assistance program has been in progress for several months.

Speaking during yesterday's ceremony, the Japanese ambassador assured that cooperation is the basis for relations among countries. Katsuhiko Tsunoda recalled that his country launched a drive to improve its goals at the beginning of the century when it turned into a first-rate military and economic power. Regarding the aid to Radio-Television Dominicana, he expressed his satisfaction for the help that will be offered and said he trusted that it will allow the enterprise to fulfill its goals better.

Foreign Secretary Joaquin Ricardo expressed his appreciation for the agreed aid and noted the contribution Japan is making in important areas of the country such as agriculture, aquaculture, and technology.

Grenada**Court To Hear 'Stay of Execution' Pleas**

*FL3107195491 Bridgetown CANA in English
1817 GMT 31 Jul 91*

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, July 31, CANA—The Grenada Court of Appeal will on August 7 hear arguments on a motion seeking a stay of execution for the killers of leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. Meantime, human rights bodies are pressing the Grenada authorities to free the 14 former government and military officials who were involved in the execution of Bishop and persons who had been in his ill-fated People's Revolutionary Government.

The motion, filed Monday, resulted in the cancellation of plans to hang five of the 14—former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, and former Army officers Calistus Bernard, Ewart Layne, Leon Cornwall, and Lester Redhead—for the murder of Bishop and half his cabinet in a 1983 coup. The motion seeks a rehearing of the appeal against the convictions and death sentences. It also seeks a stay of the executions on the grounds that the sentences have been referred to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Telegrams, cables, and faxed messages from Amnesty International, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Caribbean Rights, and the Caribbean Conference of

Churches [CCC] carried mercy appeals to Governor General Sir Paul Scoon and Prime Minister Nicholas Brathwaite. In a personal plea to Governor General Scoon, the secretary general of Amnesty International, Ian Martin, said that to execute any of the condemned 14 now after the death penalty had not been carried out in Grenada for the past 13 years, would be "contrary to the spirit of international human rights standards."

The Amnesty top official pleaded that the death sentences imposed on the 14 be commuted and that this act of mercy also be extended to cover all prisoners currently under "sentence of death in Grenada." In its appeal to Prime Minister Brathwaite, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) said that the executions would violate provisions of the American Convention on Human Rights. Grenada is a signatory to this convention. The IACHR had received a petition on the case of the condemned 14. It is now seeking, "for humanitarian reasons and to avoid irreparable harm" to have a stay of executions pending "the outcome of the study and decision" of the petition.

Caribbean Rights, grouping eight national human rights groups of the region, told Prime Minister Brathwaite in a cable Tuesday that it was "deeply disturbed by the obvious indecent haste" to begin the executions. Caribbean Rights said that it wished to pass no judgements on the recent decision of the Grenada Court of Appeal to uphold the earlier decision of the Grenada High Court. However, it said that as a regional human rights body committed to the abolition of the death penalty, it was once more appealing for mercy to spare the lives of the condemned 14 as well as the "15 or more prisoners, other prisoners who have been languishing on death row for many years in Grenada." Caribbean Rights said that "we understand the anger and the anguish, but we consider that it would be an unprecedented crime to execute 14 West Indians for the unprecedented and horrendous crimes of October 1983."

The Caribbean Conference of Churches said its commitment to "a consistent life ethic" was behind its mercy plea for the condemned 14. Stating that the right to life "is a non-negotiable component," the CCC questioned the "appropriateness of the death sentence itself." "In addition," said the CCC, "we raise the matter of the serious potential damage to the psyche of the Grenadian people as a whole and even of the people of the region were the death sentences to be carried out on the convicted persons as a group or individually...."

The Grenada Government told the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and Amnesty International that it is not yet ready to respond to their mercy pleas, the ambassador to the United States, Denneth Modeste, told the CARIBBEAN NEWS AGENCY. Modeste, who met with delegations from both the commission—an agency of the Organisation of American States—and Amnesty International on Monday, said he could tell them nothing beyond the fact that the Government of Grenada would respond in due course to their

letters. The ambassador said, however, that Grenada would live up to its obligations as a member of the OAS.

Grenada's planned return to the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court on August 1 was put on hold this week pending determination of a motion stalling the execution of five persons who were to be hanged for the 1983 killings. Attorney-General Francis Alexis said: "It means that we are not observing the August 1 date." At the same time, he announced that the life of the Grenada Supreme Court, which was scheduled to expire on Wednesday, would be extended to facilitate the hearing of the motion.

On Wednesday, Governor General Sir Paul issued a proclamation reversing one he signed on July 19, paving the way for Grenada's return to the regional court. The first proclamation authorized Grenada's return to the OECS [Organization of Eastern Caribbean States] court in August.

"Whereas it is no longer expedient that the Constitutional Judicature Restoration Act comes into force on Thursday, the first August, I, acting in accordance with the cabinet, hereby revoke the proclamation given under my hand and the public seal of Grenada on the 19th day of July 1991," the governor general said.

Haiti

Lafontant Trial Concludes, Sentences Handed Down

Lassegue Expresses Satisfaction

FL3107215991 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in French 1600 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Minister of Information Marie-Laurence Jocelyn-Lassegue attended the entire trial at the courthouse. This morning, in the wake of the verdict, she expressed her satisfaction.

[Begin recording] [Lassegue] The Haitian Government promised that this trial would take place. We were able to see that the trial took place. The jurors were present as well as the lawyers. All the national and international press were able to broadcast this trial. The public was also able to enter the courthouse. I think that that was the most important thing that justice finally gave this country.

Now, regarding the verdict. Those who had the mission of administering justice applied the code of law. Therefore, I have no comments to make at that level. What is important, however, is that the Haitian Government kept its word. Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide, president of the republic and Rene Preval, chief of the government together with the entire cabinet committed themselves to holding this trial. This trial was held. What I would also add is that beyond the trial of one man, it was also the trial of the entire system of macoutism. As you know, in the beginning when candidate Jean-Bertrand Aristide decided to assume his responsibilities by responding to the call from the population, it was also the call to

demacoutize. With this trial, we have seen the burial of the macoute system in Haiti.

[Reporter Clarens] Do you think, or according to the government, that macoutism is over in Haiti?

[Lassegue] Well, it is now a question of ending demacoutization. Today, however, the Haitian Government decided to officially bury macoutism. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Volel on Unanswered Question

FL3107223391 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale
in French 1700 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Italicized passages in Creole]

[Text] We have begun to receive reactions following the conclusion of the trial. Eddy Volel of the Christian Democratic Assembly [RDC] took a stand against this trial. Let us listen to his statement.

[Begin Volel recording] *A trial always requires much preparation, many risks, and there are always many people involved in it. The trial of the Lafontant coup case should satisfy at least 65 percent of the Haitian people. We realize that there are many truths that have not been revealed in this trial. There are many important people that were absent from the trial and there are also many important questions that were not asked.*

First, why were Ertha Trouillot, Herard Abraham, Dar-dompne, and several of Lafontant's political confederates not present in the room hearing the coup trial? Why were some members of the general staff not present either? We do not know. They [not further identified] should have told us what international ramification was involved in the coup of 7 January, if there were any. They should have told the Haitian people all the real reasons and all the interests that caused this palace coup, the coup that was trying to put Duvalierism in the saddle again.

We in the RDC are not satisfied with the trial because the real cause of the coup and the role of several people such as Ertha Trouillot, Herard Abraham, and numerous political personalities were not unveiled to the Haitian people. It mostly looks like a family quarrel of macoutes and it has not solved any problem. Also, it gives the impression that the sentence was fixed, was given before the trial. No one is any more informed now about the causes for the coup, about the reasons for the coup, and all the people involved in it than he was before the trial. [end recording]

Overview of Trial

FL0108000991 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in French 1600 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Excerpts] The long awaited trial at the Port-au-Prince Criminal Court of Roger Lafontant ended this morning just before 0800 with the sentencing of the defendants, as authors, co-authors, and accomplices in the coup on 7 January. Roger Lafontant is sentenced to life in prison

with hard labor. Alphonse Lahens, Gerard Louis, and 15 other defendants received the same sentences. Sentences of 10 years in prison with hard labor were handed down to Paul Auguste, Desius Francois, Frank Miradieu Charles, and Gilbert Moise.

The trial started on Monday, 29 July and lasted more than 20 hours. All activities in the capital were paralyzed. Automobile traffic and commercial activities came to a halt. Several streets were blocked with barricades and numerous groups of demonstrators gathered before the courthouse. Tires in hand, they were sending out slogans against Lafontant, against macoutism. No unfortunate incident took place during the duration of the trial in which 22 people were accused, including Roger Lafontant.

The defense was presented by five court appointed lawyer-trainees. The members of the Court of Assizes refused to accept extenuating circumstances on behalf of the main defendant, Roger Lafontant. During the entire trial, he refused to acknowledge the trial's legality, describing it as a mockery of justice. He asserted that his defense could not be assured by a lawyer of his choice. Six of the defendants also chose not to answer the magistrates' questions. They declined the services of the lawyer-trainees who were appointed to defend them.

A little before 0800 this morning, the verdict was returned: Life in prison with hard labor for Roger Lafontant, Alphonse Lahens, Gerard Louis, and 15 other defendants. Four defendants were granted extenuating circumstances and were sentenced to 10 years in prison with hard labor. [passage omitted]

Upon hearing the verdict, Roger Lafontant stated that the judges torpedoed the trial and expressed his intention to take his case to the Court of Appeal. [passage omitted]

Senate Approves Ambassador to U.S., OAS

*FL0108002991 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil
Network in Creole 1830 GMT 31 Jul 91*

[Text] This morning, the Senate met on the executive's choice of Jean Casimir as Haiti's ambassador to Washington and the OAS. After many Senate debates, the parliamentarians voted and approved Jean Casimir as Haiti's ambassador to Washington and the OAS.

This appointment follows Senate approval of Guy Alexandre as ambassador to the Dominican Republic and Emmanuel Ambroise as ambassador to Canada. The Senate still has to reach a decision on Jean-Robert Sabalat, who was chosen by the executive as Haiti's ambassador to France and the Vatican.

President Mandela Winds Up Official Visit

Discusses Apartheid Struggle

PA0108004491 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
0630 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Mexico City, 30 Jul (NOTIMEX)—African National Congress (ANC) President Nelson Mandela has said that the negotiations to eliminate apartheid in his country have reached an irreversible course, which is why there will soon be peace in that region.

During a courtesy call on the members of the Permanent Committee of the National Congress, he explained that the current ANC stance "is to internationally isolate the regime of Frederik de Klerk."

He also invited a delegation from Mexico and friendly countries, in general, to visit South Africa so that they can learn that the political and social situation is different from what it is reported in the West.

He cautioned, however: "We do not want high profile personalities, known worldwide, to visit because that would amount to supporting the De Klerk regime. We want groups that support us."

He acknowledged that President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has been one of the strongest opponent of any form of racism, chiefly apartheid, and so, he said "we are grateful for his support."

Mandela, who canceled a dinner hosted in his honor by President Salinas, owing to the crisis his country is facing, stated that the ANC fully supports the UN principle that the people and governments of the world should settle their conflicts through peaceful means.

Mandela noted that the big powers of the world are facing the dilemma of maintaining peace and destroying nuclear weapons because of "the protests of the people throughout the world, who feel that world's problems will never be solved by instruments of destruction."

In this respect, he said, Mexico is known because it asked the superpowers to seek ways to achieve peace and "the people of South Africa support that objective."

The ANC leader said he was released from jail thanks to the continuous struggle and support of the international community, and now he can visit a country "that, as we see, is committed to raising the living standard of its people and maintaining peace at home and abroad."

Senate leader Emilio M. Gonzalez said that Mexicans have a common cause with Mandela, who not only represents the cause of South Africa but of people throughout the world. "South Africa," Gonzales stated, "belongs to all the human groups that comprise it, regardless of their color, and we support a government where there are neither divisions nor control by blacks or whites."

Mandela said that the sole aspect that the South African regime is concerned about in its relations with the outside

world is the growing interdependence, because that nation needs foreign investment to strengthen its economy.

De Klerk Response 'Disturbing'

MB0108051491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2218 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Mexico City July 31 SAPA—State President F.W. de Klerk's response to the Inkathagate crisis was "woefully disappointing and gravely disturbing", according to ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela's delegation travelling in Latin America.

A statement attributed to the ANC delegation and issued to SAPA from Mexico City late on Wednesday [31 July] night said Mr de Klerk's failure to take "bold corrective action" had seriously damaged the integrity of the negotiation process.

The delegation called on foreign governments to support the ANC's demand for an interim government to oversee the period of transition in South Africa.

"These revelations prove beyond a shadow of doubt that the present regime cannot be a player and a referee at the same time."

The statement said the ANC was determined to win its freedom and "would prefer to do so through a negotiated settlement". It was up to the government to ensure that this wish prevailed.

Foreign governments who prematurely awarded Mr de Klerk by lifting sanctions [as received] should review their policies in view of the Inkathagate scandal.

Given the fact that the peace process and negotiations in South Africa had been endangered by "illegal actions" on the part of the government, the ANC had expected Mr de Klerk to act boldly and in the interests of the entire country "rather than choose to defend illegality through specious arguments."

"The central issue in the Inkathagate scandal is not isolated payments to Inkatha and other government surrogates."

"It is the creation and promotion of synthetic black opinion and political organisations whose major purpose is to defend white minority rule, the privileges they draw therefrom and to destabilise genuine black and non-racial political organisations."

"The criminal act of the De Klerk government is complicated by the fact that it has gone beyond mere funding of these organisations to aiding and abetting them, by commission and by omission, in their use of indiscriminate violence in pursuit of their political objectives. These are the issues that Mr de Klerk should have boldly addressed and acted on."

The ANC said it was "most disappointing" that Mr de Klerk and his government seemed to "fail all tests" that

could have proved that they had made a complete break with apartheid, in all its ramifications, and its methods of self-preservation.

"When Mr de Klerk had the opportunity to legally eradicate all the shadowy death squads, particularly the CCB [Civil Cooperation Bureau] and askaris [turned former ANC guerillas], he chose to use the Harms commission of inquiry to shamelessly whitewash the death squads. Months after he had announced that the CCB and other death squads had disbanded, they were still in operation and using secret funds."

Mr de Klerk's vilification of those calling for a judicial commission to investigate the Inkathagate disclosures displayed "an anti-democratic streak" that still prevailed in his government, the ANC charged.

"By blaming the people, he directly violates their right to a full disclosure of the manner in which public funds are used to finance covert crimes targetted at the opposition to apartheid and the people in general. [no closing quotation mark as received]

The ANC rejected Mr de Klerk's attempt to justify "the crimes committed by his government and its security forces".

The statement pointed out that Mr de Klerk represented a government elected by less than 15 per cent of the country's entire population.

"He cannot, therefore, compare his government in any respect to normal democratic governments."

South African security forces were trained, equipped and directed to the protection of a white racist minority state.

"They play an explicitly political role and have been involved in the destabilisation of the Frontline States at a human cost of more than a million lives and incalculable economic harm for those states.

"By again failing to weed out the murderous elements in the security forces, Mr de Klerk is giving further licence to continue with their criminal activities."

According to the statement the touring delegation had received reports that the security forces were still recruiting ANC and former ANC members "in order to put them in the askaris".

While committed to the peace process, the ANC had previously stated clearly that its policies and strategies were determined by "the harsh realities" confronting it, the ANC delegation said.

A response to the crisis by the ANC's National Executive Committee, which met in Johannesburg on Wednesday, would be influenced by the organisation's commitment to a negotiated settlement and the ANC's "unwavering commitment to a democratic, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa".

However, "none of the meandering reasoning applied by Mr de Klerk in his statement can convince any honest person that he should not bare the responsibility for any breakdown that may follow," the statement said.

The ANC also expected a policy change from countries "whose policies elevated Inkatha from a minor bantustan political party into an alleged representative of African opinion, in spite of evidence to the contrary".

It called on the international community to reward South Africans by ensuring a speedy transformation of the country into a non-racial democratic state.

The organisation also urged the international community to support its call for free and fair universal elections for a constituent assembly which, it said, would work out a new dispensation for South Africa.

Ends Trip, Travels to Brazil

PA0108033291 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
2221 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Mexico City, 31 Jul (NOTIMEX)—Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress [ANC], left Mexico at 1615 today for Brazil, after ending his three-day visit at the invitation of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari.

Accompanied by his wife, Winnie, and his delegation, the South African antiapartheid leader boarded American Airlines flight No. 949 to Brazil to continue his tour.

Shortly before boarding the plane, Mandela said his visit confirmed that Mexico's defense of human rights is very strong, so Mexico will always be held in high esteem by the ANC.

During his stay, Mandela met with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana Morales, Mexico City Mayor Manuel Camacho Solis, and Jorge Carpizo MacGregor, chairman of the National Human Rights Commission.

Nelson Mandela has been on an intense antiapartheid tour. He first visited Cuba, then Caracas, and now Mexico, where the president reiterated his administration's position against apartheid and any other form of racial segregation.

The Mexican Government's sanctions against the South African Government included the closing in 1974 of the Mexican Consulate in that nation and the absolute ban on any economic, financial, commercial and cultural exchange with South Africa.

In February 1990, Mexico's support for the South African black people's struggle was reiterated on the occasion of Mandela's release from a jail in South Africa, a former British colony in the early 19th century.

Nelson Mandela was seen off at the airport by Deputy Foreign Secretary Andres Rozenthal and other Foreign Secretariat officials.

El Salvador

Honduras Accuses FMLN of Attack at Border

PA0108002991 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA
in Spanish 30 Jul 91 p 44

[Text] The Honduran Government has accused the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] radicals of the murder of two women and the wounding of three soldiers and three civilians in Mapulaca, Lempira Department, Honduras.

The Honduran Foreign Relations Ministry has already filed charges with ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America] through communique No. 08091, in which they condemn the attacks and demand that this organization take the appropriate action to condemn the FMLN for human rights violations.

According to the Honduran authorities' report, the FMLN rebels simply shot at a group of people who were carrying out their daily activities.

The Honduran soldiers were near the Mapulaca area patrolling the border when they were attacked by FMLN members.

Honduran military authorities were immediately alerted and an unknown number of troops were deployed to prevent any violation of the Honduran territory.

The wounded soldiers and civilians were immediately taken to hospitals by military troops.

Honduran authorities explained that the attack has caused indignation, unhappiness, and a great deal of concern among the different sectors: political, social, journalism, radio, and television.

In our country, this incident is a cause of concern because, should similar incidents continue in the future, they could cause problems for the people who live in the common border areas and who make their living through agricultural, trade and tourist activities.

Salvadoran authorities have already been informed of this FMLN terrorist attack, which is allegedly aimed at hampering the ties of friendship between the two governments and people of the region.

Following the Honduran charges filed before ONUCA to verify and monitor the violent actions of FMLN's extreme groups who attempt to disturb the Salvadoran peace process, according to authorized Salvadoran Government spokesmen. [sentence as published]

Last night there was talk that the Salvadoran Government might suggest that the United Nations Observers for El Salvador [ONUSAL] delegates consider the unjustified FMLN action against civilian and military personnel as a direct attack against Honduran authorities, thereby endangering the Salvadoran-Honduran regional stability.

Last night the Honduran media expressed its concern for the lives of the three soldiers and three civilians who were wounded. The reaction of the ONUSAL and ONUCA delegates is unknown at this time. ONUCA and ONUSAL are in charge of monitoring human rights as well as compliance with agreements and principals of Esquipula II.

Pacas Confirms Attack

PA0108011591 San Salvador Canal Doce Television
in Spanish 0300 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Pacas Castro confirmed today that the guerrillas carried out an attack in Honduran territory, in which two Honduran civilians were killed and 12 [as heard] others were wounded. According to the Foreign Ministry, the attack took place on 28 July and the responsibility of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has been confirmed.

Foreign Minister Pacas Castro said that this type of attack is entirely unjustified because in the first place, there are no Salvadoran military targets in Honduras, and in the second place, most of the casualties were civilians.

[Begin Pacas Castro recording] This is most unfortunate as two civilians were killed and three were wounded. In addition, three Honduran soldiers were also critically injured. I understand the attack took place inside Honduran territory. This attack by the FMLN is entirely unjustified. [end recording]

Three Honduran noncommissioned officers reported that the rebel attack took place on 28 July in Mapulaca, Lempira Department in western Honduras.

[Begin Pacas Castro recording] The Honduran Government officially notified us about the attack on that night so we could begin the investigations. Therefore, we immediately contacted our ambassador in Tegucigalpa. The information we have is that there was no provocation or reason for the FMLN to enter Honduran territory and to attack Honduran civilians and members of the Honduran Armed Forces. We want to clarify that there were no [words indistinct] to blame others. There were no patrols or members of the Salvadoran Armed Forces in that area. [end recording]

The Honduran Government also reported that one guerrilla was wounded in the attack, and he is being treated in a Honduran hospital [words indistinct]. Foreign Minister Pacas Castro said that the incident will not have greater repercussions at the diplomatic level and will [words indistinct] the case of the border conflict between the two countries that is currently being discussed in The Hague.

FMLN Denies Involvement

PA3107225291 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo
Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] The Salvadoran media has been reporting the Honduran Foreign Ministry's statements about an

alleged attack by the National Army for Democracy [END] against Honduran troops in Honduras. We want to state the following:

In view of the various versions of a violent incident in Mapulaca, Honduras, we state that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has never had the policy of attacking Honduran military forces, much less in Honduran territory. We can state that we can rule out the possibility that END units participated in the incident. Moreover, it would be absurd for the FMLN to carry out military actions in Honduran territory after our general command has met with Honduran President Rafael Callejas and the commander of the Honduran Armed Forces. This would run counter to the relations of good understanding that exist between the FMLN and the Honduran Government.

Therefore, we are concerned about the version given by Salvadoran Foreign Minister Pacas Castro who, hastily and without having full and total knowledge of the facts, in an ill-willed manner accused the FMLN of being responsible, even when the Honduran Armed Forces have stated that they will not be presenting any protest against the FMLN.

It must also be stated that all the units of our END are involved in the nationwide maneuver to hit enemy garrisons to exert pressure for reaching political agreements that will fairly end the armed conflict in our country.

FMLN: Key to Jesuit Case Lies With U.S.

PA3107162791 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Station commentary: "The Jesuits' Case: Its Solution is in the Hands of the U.S. Government"]

[Text] During the trial, little concrete evidence (was presented) to imprison the killers of the Jesuits. No case ever encountered so many institutional obstacles, this time in the form of a chain of lies. President Cristiani lied when he said he was not aware of the existence of the criminal plot prior to its execution. General Ponce lied when he affirmed likewise. Colonel Guzman Aguilar, head of the National Intelligence Department, lied when he spoke of the suspension of the preliminary search at Central American University. Col. Leon Linares, commander of the killer battalion, also lied. All of them lied. In addition, two captains, key witnesses to the act, were murdered by their own comrades in arms.

The key to reach the masterminds of the crime lies in the hands of the U.S. advisers who were in El Salvador when the murders were perpetrated. These U.S. military advisers knew in advance that the crime was to be executed. They attended every meeting of the staff before, during, and after the fateful events. The destruction of evidence by the military, the conspiracy of silence, the threats against the prosecutors, and the web of lies have stagnated the trial. The key to get it going again rests in the hands of the U.S. Congress. Congress can pressure the Department of State,

which since early in the case has concealed the statements by Major Eric Buckland and is now making it difficult for those involved in the case to make complete statements [words indistinct].

The key to the problem lies with the United States. It is now up to the Bush administration to demonstrate with actions its interest in doing justice in this particular case [words indistinct].

Official Says Government Ready For Cease-Fire

PA3107225491 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 30 Jul 91 p 3

[Text] Presidency Minister Oscar Santamaria has announced that the government is ready to sign a cease-fire because all issues have been sufficiently covered in the peace talks and there is nothing left to discuss with the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front].

Santamaria, who heads the government delegation at the negotiations, added that the FMLN must show political will and a positive attitude at the next round of talks. He noted that the rebels should avoid adding new topics to the agenda.

In his opinion the government has not strayed from the agreements signed in Geneva in April 1990, as their immediate objective was the achievement of a cease-fire and respect for human rights.

According to Santamaria, the day when both sides sign a peace agreement will be the day when Salvadorans can live in peace, progress, and justice.

He stressed that total reconciliation in the postwar will be possible through the integration of FMLN members into civilian and political life.

The last round of talks held in Mexico from 10 to 13 July brought forth no positive results.

Rebel Leaders on Cease-Fire, Military Campaign

PA3107160391 San Salvador TCS Television in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Jul 91

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] Guerrilla commanders in the eastern zone of the country have stated that a cease-fire is impossible until an agreement is signed on the Armed Forces at the negotiating table. The rebel leaders also said they have no official reports on the kidnapping of a farmer in Usulután Department. Quite the contrary, an extreme-right Army group is involved in these activities to collect money and continue the war, they warned.

FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] commanders Raul and Jeremias, both in charge of the country's southeastern zone, said a cease-fire has not been reached at the negotiating table because there is no agreement on the Armed Forces issue. The guerrilla commanders said that, although the issue has been

discussed extensively—as the government says—there is still no definite agreement that satisfies the FMLN and, above all, offers the necessary guarantees for its subsequent demobilization.

Commander Jeremias stresses that there will be no cease-fire until specific demilitarization agreements are reached.

[Jeremias] "No significant progress has been made on this issue. Even if Presidency Minister Oscar Santamaria says that the topic has been thoroughly discussed, it is not only a matter of discussing the issue. We can spend 1,000 years discussing one topic and never reach an agreement. The significance of the discussion does not imply an in-depth agreement. That is the problem. Therefore, the cease-fire must be based on a certain amount of significant and important political agreements."

The rebel leaders said that one of the main obstacles is that the Armed Forces only wants a simple evaluation of its structure, while the FMLN demands a purge that would entail punishing certain Army members as compensation for its historical errors. Meanwhile, the commanders did not confirm or deny that they were responsible for the kidnapping of a farmer, Gregorio Zelaya. They said they had no official statement on the case, adding that the issue is being investigated among their ranks. However, they said that the kidnapped man had committed many crimes.

[Raul] "Yes, he is a criminal who has many charges against him. We can confirm that revolutionary justice wants him and others who are equally guilty. Unfortunately, this kind of vermin is free to go around in our country."

The commanders ignored statements made by Monsignor Gregorio Rosa Chavez, who accused the guerrillas of kidnapping the farmer last week. Even though they failed to mention the case, they blamed an extreme rightist group for committing this type of crime to collect funds and continue the war.

[Jeremias] "The theft of vehicles and the kidnapping of persons are mainly intended to get the necessary economic and material resources for the groups that endorse a continuation of the war. This is well known and it is unofficially said that extreme-right groups are trying to get material resources to allow them to increase the Army ranks to approximately 30,000 men in order to have a military victory over the FMLN."

The commanders of the southeastern zone of the country said that during the military campaign, called If the Armed Forces Want Weapons Let it Win the War, which began on 8 July, the rebels have inflicted over 700 Army casualties; however, they have only reported 18 dead and 17 wounded among their ranks. The rebels announced that the military actions will continue at the national level within the framework of that military campaign. According to the guerrilla commanders, the campaign is intended to prove the existence of two armies and to prove that the FMLN cannot be militarily defeated.

Cristiani Rejects FMLN Bid To Run in Election

PA0108045391 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU
in Spanish 1230 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] The FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] cannot participate in the elections if a cease-fire is not achieved.

President Cristiani has not accepted the political party recently proposed by guerrilla commander Shafik Handal. Handal informed the Cristiani government that the FMLN is willing to participate in the elections but not to disarm. The president described the statement as antidemocratic.

[Begin Cristiani recording] That is not democratic. It is impossible to accept as democratic that someone should participate in politics with the backing of an armed group. I believe that in a democratic country there can only be one armed institution, which must serve the entire nation, not a particular sector. For my government, it is unacceptable for the FMLN to participate in politics while it is still armed. [end recording]

In reference to the constitutional reforms and statements by San Salvador Mayor Armando Calderon Sol with regard to those reforms, Cristiani said that they will not be implemented if a cease-fire is not agreed upon, adding that this must be achieved through a consensus.

[Begin Cristiani recording] I believe that recently an effort has been made to reach a consensus; I believe that we can now establish dates for the discussion and for the reforms' eventual ratification; I have apprised the bipartisan commission of this and I was told that they are reaching an understanding on the legislative assembly level. [end recording]

Cristiani concluded by saying that the government's position is that signed agreements must be observed, adding that the Mexico agreements clearly state that ratification will take place as progress is made in the pacification process.

Military Reports 30 Killed in Violent Fighting

PA3107172691 Paris AFP in Spanish 1622 GMT
31 Jul 91

[Text] San Salvador, 31 Jul (AFP)—At least 30 persons have been killed and several dozen wounded in violent fighting between the guerrillas and the Salvadoran Army that broke out on the afternoon of 30 July in the eastern part of the country, official sources reported today.

A communique from the Armed Forces Press Committee (Coprefa) said that the fighting in Tecoluca, 60 km east of San Salvador, began at 1400 (2000 GMT) on 30 July and continued until 0600 on 31 July.

In this action, the Army reported the deaths of 15 guerrillas and two soldiers and the seizure of 175 fragmentation grenades, dynamite, military equipment, ammunition, and other war materiel.

Coprefa also said that eight rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) and two soldiers were killed in combat in San Jorge, in the eastern San Miguel Department.

In addition, troops from the 6th Infantry Brigade fought against the guerrillas in Jucuapa, in the eastern Usulután Department, where three guerrillas reportedly died and several were wounded, according to the military communiqué.

The military office also reported there was fierce fighting in San José Las Flores, in the northern Chalatenango Department, but no casualties have been reported yet.

Early Wednesday morning, the guerrillas harassed National Guard posts in Tejutepeque, Cabanas Department, east of San Salvador, but there are no reports of casualties.

Meanwhile, the guerrillas said today that in various battles they had inflicted 45 casualties, including dead and wounded, on the army.

At the same time, the guerrillas reiterated their determination to continue with their military campaign "If the Armed Forces want our weapons, let them win the war," which was begun on 8 July to exert pressure on the Alfredo Cristiani government to conclude political agreements for a cease-fire.

Arena Rejects Amendments on Armed Forces

PA3107225991 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY
in Spanish 31 Jul 91 p 3

[Text] Arep., [Nationalist Republican Alliance] President Dr. Armando Calderón Sol yesterday said that his party "will never ratify" the constitutional amendments pertaining to the Armed Forces as long as the FMLN [Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front] continues to attack the Salvadoran people.

It was officially announced that the Legislative Assembly plans to start a discussion in August to ratify the constitutional amendments that are part of an agreement reached within the peace process by the government and the FMLN.

However, the Arena president, whose party controls 39 of the 84 congressional seats, pointed out that it would be a grave mistake to ratify, under the current circumstances, the amendments pertaining to the Army and security corps, because national security would be jeopardized.

Calderón Sol said that Arena will not violate any inter-partisan agreement and is willing to set dates to discuss the ratification of the other points pertaining to human rights, the electoral system, and the judicial system.

"The Salvadoran people must trust that we will not lend ourselves to jeopardize the republic's institutions. For this reason and for the time being, we are not willing to ratify the chapter pertaining to the Armed Forces," Calderón Sol added.

In May the outgoing Legislative Assembly hastily approved a number of amendments to the republic's constitution pertaining to human rights, the electoral system, the judicial system, and the Armed Forces.

Leftist leaders this week voiced their "concern" because Calderón Sol said his party will not ratify the constitutional amendments. In reply, the Arena president yesterday confirmed that "nothing pertaining to the armed forces will be ratified as long as there is no cease-fire in place!"

Arena votes are indispensable to ratify constitutional amendments, and thus, members of that party have on multiple occasions pointed out that the FMLN must first show signs of its good intentions.

Japan Donates \$5 Million for Food, Health Plans

PA3107230291 San Salvador Canal Doce
Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] The Japanese Government today signed a \$5 million-donation agreement with the Salvadoran Government. The funds will be invested in the agricultural and public health areas. Japanese Ambassador Sunio Ono and Salvadoran Foreign Minister Manuel Pacas Castro attended the ceremony, as well as the health and agriculture ministers.

Out of the total of \$5 million, \$3 million will be used to improve medical and surgical equipment at the country's regional hospitals and the rest will be used for to promote the production of beans, rice, and corn.

Honduras

Callejas Comments on His Health, World Affairs

PA0108044091 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras
Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 31 Jul 91

["Exclusive" interview with President Rafael Leonardo Callejas by Jacobo Goldstein in Washington D.C. on 31 July—recorded]

[Text] [Goldstein] Today, Wednesday 31 July, we have Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero with us. Thank you, Mr. President, for agreeing to hold this interview at such an early hour. Let us get straight to the point. The first topic we want to discuss this morning is your health. There has been much talk, much has been speculated about your health. You became seriously ill in Guatemala during a summit meeting held last year. A few months ago you had another relapse at the port of Amapala and now you have come to Washington for medical tests at the Walter Reed Hospital. What have the doctors told you, Mr. President?

[Callejas] I have received an official note from Walter Reed hospital about the tests that I have had. The note is clear and straightforward in the sense that I am in good physical shape and am in excellent health. They have given me some recommendations I must follow

regarding my diet. I was told to eat slower and to avoid foods that can create problems for me and for many other people. In general terms, I can say that I am very happy and pleased about this. I will give you the note so that you can read it and learn about my health.

[Goldstein] I have the note. It reads:

Department of the Army, Walter Reed Army Medical Center

Washington, DC, 29 July 1991

To whom it may concern:

I have examined President Rafael Callejas on this date at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington D.C. I found him to be physically fit and in excellent health. Frank Moses, Lieutenant Colonel, Medical Corps, Gastroenterology Service. [preceding note read in English]

[Goldstein] The results are good, Mr. President.

[Callejas] Of course they are. It eases my concerns and the concerns of my family and it is a clear note telling of my good health, which pleases me greatly. I am pleased to report this to my friends and to the Honduran people.

[Goldstein] Mr. President, here in Washington you have met with Bernard Aronson, the assistant secretary of state for Inter-American affairs.

[Callejas] In a protocol ceremony held 29 July I had the opportunity to decorate Aronson with the Jose Cecilio del Valle Decoration in the Grade of Grand Silver Cross. Aronson is a humble man, a man who clearly understands Latin American problems, a friend of Central America, and very close to Honduras. He has a very clear understanding of our situation and with the changes in Eastern Europe, the downfall of the existing political system in that region of the world, the attention on Latin America, especially for Central America, was limited. Recognizing that situation, he promoted two important lines of political conduct for the United States and consequently for much of the Western world: the Americas Initiative of President George Bush and the AAD, which is the American Association for Development, a political forum to hold debates and discuss positions regarding the future of Central America. Aronson has been instrumental; and in an effort to achieve the economic reconstruction of the country, he is authorized and committed to achieving flexible positions on the part of international organizations and the U.S. Government itself. After reaching agreements with these institutions, and now that the country has initiated its economic recovery, we, I in particular, felt a very strong personal commitment to decorate Bernard Aronson.

[Goldstein] Mr. President, as we speak President George Bush is at a summit meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow. What is your opinion about this meeting between the U.S. President and the USSR president?

[Callejas] According to what I have seen in the media and in newspapers, it is an effective summit as they say here in the United States, without protocol, but with results. It has been a simple, austere summit with commitments being made. It is the first summit after the Cold War. This has allowed them to reach agreements in the strategic field of nuclear weapons and the proliferation of weapons. The positive action taken by President Bush in granting the USSR the most favored nation status is important for the USSR and its leader, Mikhail Gorbachev. The impression we get is that a new stage lies ahead of greater detente, a greater rapprochement, better options from the viewpoint of economic and political concepts between the USSR and the United States. The fact that he held a private meeting with Boris Yeltsin gives the Soviet democratization process and economic liberalization clear support. Even during his speech before the highest forum in the USSR, President Bush made it very clear that he was willing to support the Western world when taking positive steps toward the USSR as long as the latter carries out the transformations demanded by this competitive world and opened itself economically in the present. Apparently, this has been accepted by the USSR, which is very interesting because its incorporation into the IMF was recently requested. This means decisions must be made in keeping with society and the free market economy. The USSR has, therefore, taken a significant step. The summit between President Bush and Soviet leader Gorbachev improves the outlook for a new international order for our world.

[Goldstein] Mr. President, talking about the economy, what is your opinion about Honduras' economic situation? The last time you came here we talked about the issue. Has the situation improved?

[Callejas] Jacobo, this is always a controversial topic. It depends on how you see things—from the perspective of a citizen who goes to the market or the supermarket to the perspective of the opposition parties. The economic issue is always a controversial topic. We have established a policy that is essentially based on the figures analyzed by the Central Bank of Honduras and submitted to the IMF's approval. What do these statistics tell us? That a fiscal recovery and a substantial monetary improvement have taken place; that the economy has yet to fully recover; and that there still prevails a limited inflation rate.

Consequently, the country's options are good, even pleasing; the results of the semester, talking about fiscal issues, are highly positive; the Central Bank of Honduras reported a 1 percent fiscal deficit—in fact, it was even less, it was 0.87 percent—for the first semester. In other words, we had foreseen that the country, meaning the government, would spend \$287 million but it did not spend \$200 million so it has a net deficit of \$87 million. This is really impressive because it means that the government came close to saving money. International reserves are at a favorable level; we have positive reserves—\$70 million—and \$560 million have been recovered since July 1990. Imports are doing fine and monetary issues have even

resulted in liquidity and availability of resources in the banking system. This has led to a brief reduction in the interest rates for privileged clients.

Talking about the actual situation in the market, our currency has remained stable and it has not fluctuated in a significant way; and we are concluding the most complex part of the period where our currency withstood great pressure. Once we start to export coffee and cantaloupes, and once the banana exports improve, the pressure on the currency will be reduced. This makes it feasible to predict that the currency will achieve a permanent level of stability during the second semester of 1991. In other words, it will remain more or less within the current parameters: 5.30 [lempiras for 1 dollar] or 5.40 [lempiras for 1 dollar]. We are concerned about inflation basically in two areas—clothing and food. Although the inflation level has ostensibly decreased from the levels reported earlier this year and late last year, we continue to have an inflation level that is still unacceptable. We hope that inflation will not surpass an accumulated 10 percent by the second semester, but we would rather have a 7.5 percent level.

Jacobo, the situation is positive in general terms and I am quite satisfied. I cannot deny that the economic program is criticized but it will be accepted more and more, once the results become more evident. We have made important decisions; we raised the minimum salary again on 1 July; and we have acted consistently, seeking better alternatives for the consumer—such as the opening of Central American markets and the Honduran market to Central American products with the multilateralization proposal included in bilateral agreements. The agreements list about 1,500 products, including staples, to allow a competition. We think that competition is an essential issue for a free trade market because it leads to a reduction in prices.

[Goldstein] Mr. President, I have constantly heard reports that the crime rate has increased in Honduras. How is this being countered?

[Callejas] This causes general concern. Meetings have been held with the public sector, the executive branch, and the national security council to become fully involved in the struggle against crime, basically common crime—thief, rape, murder, and violent actions that have no political connotations or ideological characteristics. We are basically talking about an increase in common crimes. We have undertaken some actions on this issue, which include an increase in the military presence in public and the preparation of specific plans through the Honduran fund for social investment. These plans are intended for urban areas with the most critical crime rates, to create jobs, and lower the pressure and tension that may arise in those zones. We are very concerned about this situation and we have instructed the government of the Republic to act accordingly, defend our national interests, and reduce the crime rate. In addition, the Armed Forces will make the pertinent

decisions to improve the night patrols and thus have a better control on the citizen's behavior.

[Goldstein] Mr. President, it was recently reported that there was a competition—if I may use the word—between Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari concerning their areas of influence in Central America. You get along famously with the two presidents and I would like to ask you: What are your views about their role in Central America's economic development?

[Callejas] Very favorable and very positive. The two presidents are aware of the need to strengthen the Central American region to achieve peace, reorganize the economy, and improve social benefits for the people. Mexico and Venezuela have undoubtedly given their fraternal hand to the countries in the Central American region, and their efforts to give us their support works in a complementary way. The most specific way to recognize this effort is the San Jose Pact and its subsequent agreements and the resolutions resulting from the meeting in Tuxtla Gutierrez. Venezuela and Mexico joined efforts and clearly played a decisive role in times of crisis—when the oil prices rose due to the Persian Gulf war.

There is no competition between them; instead, it is a commitment toward Central America. Their styles are completely different; perhaps that is why people believe there is a situation like the one you mention. Carlos Andres Perez is an extrovert, a dynamic man who has an economy and society that are more free, more informal. Carlos Salinas is an active, dynamic man who comes from a much more formal society—a government society. Consequently, his relations are less ebullient but they are equally direct and effective. Central America has excellent relations with both of them and they are both great friends of our Central American nations.

[Goldstein] Mr. President, I heard that there were problems at the Salvadoran border a few days ago?

[Callejas] That is correct. The Honduran people are well aware of this and I have received all the pertinent information. There was a serious incident at the border zone with El Salvador—specifically in Mapulaca municipality. Two women were killed, three civilians were wounded, and three soldiers were wounded in an irresponsible action that was totally unwarranted and groundless. Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front members fired a grenade and attacked an area inside Honduran territory with very negative consequences for some of our citizens. The government of the Republic is taking all the pertinent measures. The UN Observer Group in Central America has been notified and we believe that it will even be necessary to speak with the FMLN groups involved in order to file the appropriate complaint concerning their actions. We must not let the country become involved in other people's conflicts.

[Goldstein] Mr. President, you are about to leave Washington. Could you tell us what your plans are for the next few days? Where are you going? When will you return to the country?

[Callejas] Of course. I decided for personal reasons to take some time off; I will stay here in the United States five or seven days more with my wife, Norma and our children. We will visit some historical sites. We will take the children to visit one of the most important areas in the U.S. Civil War history, Gettysburg, where President Lincoln gave his famous speech about the government being of the people, for the people, and by the people. We will also visit some communities in the area, but primarily we will use the opportunity to spend some time with our children because we have not traveled as a family for quite some time, and to rest after the medical tests.

[Goldstein] When will you go back to Honduras?

[Callejas] Between 6 and 9 August.

[Goldstein] Anything else, Mr. President?

[Callejas] I am very happy about the favorable results from the medical tests. This gives me the opportunity to return to my homeland, my dear Honduras, physically and mentally fit to continue our efforts for a national transformation.

Nicaragua

Recontras Abandon Leader, Surrender to Army

PA0108035491 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
0004 GMT 1 Aug 91

[Text] Managua, 31 Jul (ACAN-EFE)—Deputy Government Minister Jose Pallais reported today that 15 recontras have abandoned their leader, "El Indomable," and surrendered to the Sandinist People's Army.

Last week "El Indomable," who leads approximately 80 recontras, attacked a Nicaraguan police post near the border with Honduras, leaving four dead and 14 wounded.

Pallais added that the former rebels decided to return to Quilali to rejoin civilian life after they understood that the Army, which was pursuing them, did not want to kill them, as their leader, "El Indomable," had led them to believe.

Dozens of civilians also returned with the former rebels. The civilians had joined the recontras after the attack on the police post in Quilali. The group of recontras attacked the Quilali post on 25 July with RPG-7 rockets and light antitank weapons. Two policemen were killed and six were wounded.

Pallais stated that two recontras were killed and eight were wounded in the action.

Troops Search for Leader

PA0108031591 Managua Radio Corporacion
in Spanish 2300 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] We have a last minute report from the city of Matagalpa. On the phone we have Frank, who is the president of the demobilized members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] in Region Six, which encompasses Matagalpa and Jinotega Departments. The last minute report is on the situation in Wiwili, where Army troops are surrounding the town. Convoys of troops have been brought from Managua and Matagalpa because it is believed that El Indomable is in the area. As you will recall, El Indomable is said to be responsible for the incidents in Quilali, where there were armed clashes. The Army believes that El Indomable is in that area. The RN in Region Six has issued an important document. Go ahead Frank:

[Begin Frank relay] To the Nicaraguan people and President Violeta Chamorro.

Your excellency President Violeta Chamorro:

Through this means we want to present to you what we call the other side of Commander El Indomable. We want you to judge him from a Christian and humane point of view because this man abandoned weapons and war at the time of our demobilization but he has now been forced to again take up arms. Just two months after our demobilization he began to cooperate with the disarmament of his comrades in the area of Wiwili. However, when he took the weapons to the offices of Dr. Alfredo Palacios, the then government ministry delegate in Jinotega, Sandinist activist Marvin Castro, accused him and his comrades of (?hiding) weapons and of preparing a plot. You can confirm this in the Sandinist newspapers of that time.

In December 1990, three months after that incident and five months after our demobilization, when Commander El Indomable was working in his farm in the area of Wiwili, members of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] opened fire on him but he was not hit because he was able to take cover behind some trees and drop to the ground. Since they did not achieve their objective of killing Commander El Indomable, they went to his house, located about 200 yards from the field, and opened fire on his wife, who was eight months pregnant. As a result, his wife and children were killed by the Sandinist fire. Nevertheless, the action was not prosecuted and the killers were not punished even though the crime was reported to the Government Ministry delegate in Jinotega and [word indistinct] in Matagalpa. Instead, he was harassed and pursued and forced to abandon his crops, animals, and house. He fled without any set course, full of anguish, despair, and bitterness because he believed the guarantees you promised us when we demobilized.

Mrs. Violeta: All the RN members in the rural area truly said goodbye to weapons when they demobilized but today they are being forced to take up arms again

because they have seen their security and that of their families threatened. They are gradually being exterminated because of hatred, resentment, and above all, because of the daily harassment of the RN members by the Sandinist media, including the newspaper directed by your son.

As a woman, mother, and above all, as president of all Nicaraguans, we ask you to stop the manhunt being carried out by the government and defense ministers against all the demobilized individuals who live deep in the mountains just to capture or kill a man who decided to take up his rifle when he confirmed that there is no justice in this country for the victimized RN.

May God, our people, and society in general judge the actions of this man, who trusted [words indistinct] as [Nicaraguan poet] Ruben Dario said in his poem [words indistinct] peace, reconciliation, harmony, and brotherhood, which we all believed would exist in Nicaragua when you took office.

With the respect and consideration that you deserve, trusting that your government will look for and imprison the killers of Commander El Indomable's family and of all the dozens of former RN combatants who have been killed in the year since we demobilized, and hoping that Commander El Indomable will be given the opportunity to talk with his government, attentively yours, [no signature read].

I want to add that we also have the following case from Jinotega: demobilized combatant Mario Pastran Vasquez was killed by the EPS [Sandinist People's Army] on 17 July 1991. Many demobilized members are [word indistinct].

I also want to deny reports by Radio Nicaragua and Radio Ya, which are saying that airplanes are overflying the area of Matiguas. This is very negative. That is [words indistinct] the actions to pursue these members who are demanding justice. [end relay]

Recontras Said Preparing To Attack Matiguas

PA3107185391 Managua Radio Ya in Spanish
1712 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] A group of approximately 120 heavily armed recontras are planning to attack the village of Matiguas as well as the members of the Sandinist Popular Army and the National Police in the local garrison. They also intend to kill the local peasants and main Sandinist leaders.

The recontras, headed by "Charrito" and "Mil Amores," have been arriving at the vicinity of Matiguas from Cebadilla and Tierra Blanca. Supported by the demobilized contras of UPE [State Production Unit] La Delia and Hacienda Buljul, the recontras have taken up positions approximately 2 km from Matiguas. These recontras are also being supported by several UNO [National Opposition Unity] municipal councilmen, such as Alfonso Membreno and Carlos (?Joaquin), who let the recontras stay on their properties waiting for the time to attack.

According to a morning newspaper, other members of the disbanded Nicaraguan Resistance are moving through La Patriota, La Penita, and El Anzuelo on their way to Matiguas, where they expect to harass the peasants and carry out their crimes. Local peasants have reported that the recontras were supplied with military equipment before dawn Monday by a lightplane that overflew the area where the recontras have stationed themselves.

* Violent Tactics Reflect FSLN Crisis

91CA0184B Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish
27 Jun 91 p 4

[Commentary by Carlos Siles Levy]

[Text] Do last week's events mean the end of a period of violence or the beginning of new forms of violence? Do the current contortions of certain members of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] signify sudden changes in the political space of the FSLN? Do they mean a bipolar FSLN with ideological confrontations between the rank and file and intermediate leadership cadres? Or are they merely an interlude during the period preceding the congress? Does the confrontation mark a victory of the hard line with new faces? Is the Nicaragua divided by 10 years disappearing? Is Nicaragua disappearing in its ideological, army-party significance, that of the totalitarian concept that "anyone who does not jump is opposed"?

I think the FSLN's loss of power and the collapse of government socialism throughout the world has created a certain vacuum, not only in the internal world of the FSLN, but also in national institutions that were not prepared for the change and still maintain totalitarian officials in leadership posts. Whence the fact that many Nicaraguans now harbor expectations for change going far beyond the rational, awaiting responses whose implementation is much more complex than it appears. Nor it is a matter of simple decisions that will change the country's fate overnight.

The profound structural contradictions in the FSLN will finally lead it to its inevitable fragmentation. The fatal weaknesses of the Front's model can scarcely have surprised the citizenry. What is surprising is the rapid deterioration of the party. The model created over a 10-year period is collapsing 12 months after it lost power when confronted with nothing more than a democratic phase constituted by elections. The tragedy is that the collapse of the Sandinist system did not at the same time mark the end of social, political, and economic problems. On the contrary, leadership of the country was taken over with an outdated economy, a government in ruins and unable to compete, even on a small scale.

The elections marked the end of totalitarianism, the end of the "party state." However, only now can one see that Nicaragua has a very long way to go before it is transformed into a truly democratic country. The old, outdated system survives in many areas and finds firm

support in FSLN radicals who, in the best Stalinist style, think violence is the solution to national problems.

Deprived of their ideological facade, they have a serious identity problem and are faced with traditional problems of ideological disorientation, which is probably part of the reason for its violence. The leaps of the FSLN have been very great, traumatic, and, to put it clearly, they are not accustomed to what is called civility. On the one hand, one has those who cite pragmatic reasons (of every stripe) based on historical reasons and political factors of Nicaraguan reality, those who can probably, in a divided fashion, overcome the current crisis in the years ahead, those who, seeing the model of "real socialism" exhausted, are retraining themselves along the lines of socialism with freedom. On the other hand, one has the so-called hard-liners, who are scarcely beginning to face wide-ranging internal problems. Mere self-evaluation brought out the old "The-National-Directorate-hereby-orders" refrain which, if it serves any purpose at all, serves that of renewing social conflicts. In both cases, some out of weakness and others out of strength, they have difficulty providing the mechanisms needed to help solve the Nicaraguan crisis, which lurches along, continually generating violence and the dangers of war.

It is reasonable and necessary to see with an unblinking eye that the problems of transforming Nicaraguan society will be accompanied by great political and social tensions (which may even lead us to conditions for foreign aid) and that the scarcely opened doors of the democratic forum may in the near future result in great disappointments, fostering authoritarian ideas in turn. However, we must both reject them and fight them off because 10 years of "ideological" hibernation led us from 1990 to 1940, and the new light of 25 February should teach us that, despite the Front's problems, Nicaragua's problem should be balanced on the axis of democracy, no matter what.

* Congress Election Methods, Democracy Viewed

91CA0184A Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
28 Jun 91 p 3

[Commentary by Carlos Tunnermann Bernheim]

[Text] The convocation of the First Congress of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] and the publication of the draft Statutes and Program awakened great expectations in terms of the democratization of the country's majority political party and gave rise to a rich debate without precedent in the history of the FSLN. Without question, the debate constituted a valuable process of political education in the inner workings of the FSLN.

Now that the phase of rank-and-file assemblies and departmental congresses has come to an end, it is perhaps fitting to reflect upon the real possibilities of democratization emerging from this initial effort and point up its difficulties in order to contribute to the

consolidation of this process of such transcendental importance to the birth of democracy in Nicaragua.

First of all, the Central Planning Committee demonstrated inconsistency when, on the eve of the departmental congresses, it decided to change the rules of play set forth in its communique of 25 February of this year. The bulletin stated that the only way to participate as a delegate to the congress with full rights would be through established election procedures. Many discussions and suspicions would certainly have been avoided if, from the very beginning, the Central Planning Committee had established, for the reasons I advance, the *privilege* of members of the "historic Sandinist Assembly" of attending the congress with the right to speak and vote but without being subjected to the election process.

Another point on which there is apparently no agreement is the one referring to the election of members of the National Directorate. Individual election by direct, secret voting is unquestionably much more democratic than the system of closed lists, for it makes it possible to select members based on their personal merits. In other words, it truly makes it easier to choose and prevents the merits of some from being used to cover up or conceal the lack of merits or failings of others, which probably contributed to the past election defeat. A revolutionary leader should not fear this procedure, which in my opinion is the *quid* of the FSLN's democratization process.

Under the current circumstances, with an FSLN defeated in the recent past elections and its image tarnished by the abuses of certain members between 25 February and 25 April 1990, the democratization process should have been the right method to promote at least a partial renewal of the party leadership and thus offer a new image and new alternative enabling the FSLN to regain the popular consensus lost on 25 February 1990.

Such an opportunity will apparently be missed. It will therefore have to decide at the next congress whether there is still time to correct what I honestly deem to be a serious political error, or give in to verticalism and thus be reduced to the now nearly ritual formality of confirming those who are already virtually elected. The FSLN will definitely have to strengthen its unity, but the best and strongest unity is one based on deep, true democratization.

Panama

Endara on Personnel Reductions in Canal Area

PA3107173991 Panama City LA ESTRELLA
DE PANAMA in Spanish 31 Jul 91 pp A-1, A-2

["Official statement" issued by President Guillermo Endara Galimany in Panama City on 30 July]

[Text] The national government is deeply concerned about the reduction ordered by the U.S. Government of Panamanian personnel working on military bases in the canal area.

The national government has been and continues to work with the U.S. Government through the U.S. Embassy in Panama to suspend or postpone that executive order until the Panamanian economy recovers. The economy has been in a state of depression because of the profound crisis resulting from the last years of the dictatorship, which ended with the restoration of a state of law and a government elected by the people.

In that sense, it is necessary to clarify once again that the reduction of personnel on military bases originates from an executive order issued by the U.S. Government within the framework of programmed reductions of defense structures. Therefore, this reduction has no relation whatsoever to the status of the military bases established within the framework of the Agreement on the Permanent Neutrality of the Canal signed in 1977, which is in effect until 31 December 1999.

Attributing this reduction of personnel to the future of those bases beyond the year 2000 is unfounded, as there is no relationship between the two situations. Such allegations are based on assumptions and not on negotiations proposed by the concessionary state for the use of those bases on national territory; such negotiations have not taken place.

Panama City, 30 July 1991
Guillermo Endara Galimany

Arias Calderon Criticizes U.S. Government

PA0108035991 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA
in Spanish 31 Jul 91 p 1-A

[Report by Eduardo Soto P.]

[Text] The U.S. Government was severely criticized on 30 July by First Vice President Ricardo Arias Calderon, who pointed out its failure to comply with the economic aid it promised to Panama, which could prove harmful to the country's democratic consolidation.

At a luncheon meeting at the Kiwanis Club of Panama, which was attended by certain U.S. Embassy officials, Ricardo Arias Calderon outlined the points that are hindering the Panamanian democratic system's development, among which are a lack of economic assistance from the United States.

A few days ago U.S. democratic representative John Conyers wrote an article in the newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST in which he questioned the country's democracy and warned the U.S. Government to intervene in Panama where "not enough is being done to build a democratic consensus."

In Arias Calderon's opinion, Panama "is experiencing democracy," even though he warned that the government has undergone frustrations, disillusionment, and failures. In contrast with U.S. political circles, where it is said that the situation in Panama is equal to or worse than it was during the military era, Arias Calderon, also president of the

Christian Democratic Party (PDC), said that criticism against the Panamanian state is "exaggerated."

Panama's relentless poverty is alarming, according to the Panamanian politician, and the Panamanian Government as well as the U.S. Government must answer for this situation; the U.S. Government because it promised aid and the local rulers because it is their duty. Arias Calderon said.

It is precisely Panama's extreme poverty—according to Christian Democrat Arias Calderon—which, if ignored, could harm the democratic system that is unfolding in this country.

Civic Crusade Proposes Reforms To CSS

PA0108003091 Panama City LA PRENSA
in Spanish 31 Jul 91 p 1A

[Article by Zoila Rodriguez Jovane]

[Text] The Civic Crusade has demanded that, before reforms are introduced to the Organic Law of the Social Security Fund (CSS), legal and administrative procedures must be designed to guarantee that this institution will never again be the object of "past corruption or the abuse and exploitation" of the present administration.

During a news conference, Civic Crusade Coordinator Alberto Conte presented an eight-point document prepared by Carlos Valencia, Fernando Boyd, and Carlos Abadia. The document was delivered to the Legislative Assembly's Health Commission.

The document recommends that the CSS's general director be appointed by the president for a five-year period, from a single list of three candidates presented by the CSS Board of Directors, and subsequently be ratified by the National Assembly. The removal of the nominee should only be based on reasons embodied in the law.

In addition, the document recommends that the CSS Board of Directors be chosen by the president of the Republic from a single list of three candidates suggested by unions and associations that represent the insured persons.

Likewise, the establishment of an external auditing system is being requested, and that Pension and Retirement Program reserves investments be conducted without interference from the Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy or the Office of the Comptroller General.

The document proposes that the CSS limit its purchase of government bonds to such cases where the bonds are earmarked for profitable investments not intended to finance the construction of housing projects.

In addition, it proposes that government and state institutions must pay their management contributions in cash; that the negotiability of CSS securities currently held in portfolio be fixed; and that the Retirement and Complimentary Fund Program be transferred to the central government and state autonomous institutions.

PDC Call For Mayor Correa's Dismissal

PA0108005491 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA
in Spanish 31 Jul 91 p 1a

[Report by Orlando Mendieta C.]

[Text] On 30 July Christian Democratic Party [PDC] corregimiento representatives gave Panama Province Governor Plutarco Arrocha a request calling for Mayor Omayra Correa to be dismissed because she has not complied with the laws of the Republic of Panama.

The charges against the mayor were heatedly debated by PDC and government municipal representatives during an extended meeting. The PDC representatives were insulted and booed by dozens of Mayor Correa's followers who attended the meeting.

After the meeting, the representatives who presented the grievances went to the governor's office and were received by Governor Plutarco Arrocha. Accepting the PDC representatives' charges, Arrocha said he would consult with President Guillermo Endara to decide on this case.

According to the PDC representatives' charges, Mayor Mayin Correa violated article 16 of law 106 of 8 October 1973 and numeral eight of municipal agreement 88 of 27 March 1970.

These laws say that it is the mayor's duty to attend the municipal council meetings and if she does not attend she is breaking the law and the municipal agreement, the representatives pointed out.

The municipal representatives also said that the mayor delays the appointment of personnel who have already been included on the payroll of the community councils and who have been carrying out tasks to benefit the community.

Other charges against the mayor are political persecution carried out through the internal auditor's office, delaying the allotments for the operation of community councils and delaying compliance of the agreements and resolutions issued by the municipal council's plenary.

Argentina**Menem Meets Visiting Polish Foreign Minister**

PY3107183891 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
1521 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Jul (TELAM)—Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski this morning announced here that Polish President Lech Walesa will visit Argentina in 1992. Skubiszewski, who is making an official visit to our country, today met with President Carlos Menem at Government House.

Skubiszewski said Walesa will come to Argentina at the invitation of President Menem. He noted that Walesa cannot come before 1992 because of his responsibilities in the government.

He said that among Walesa's responsibilities are the Polish domestic policy, the reform of the economic system, and the upcoming parliamentary election to be held in October.

Skubiszewski described the Argentine image in Poland as "very good" and noted that the Poles "believe that Argentina and Poland have common problems despite being located in different regions."

Skubiszewski stated that both Argentina and Poland "seek economic integration in their continents through the participation of as many countries as possible." He added that our two countries "are going through a process of major economic reforms."

The Polish minister pointed to a problem affecting both the Polish and Argentine process. He said: "It is really difficult to implement the privatization of state-owned property."

Skubiszewski said: "In Poland, it has been decided that 400 state-owned companies must be privatized. Thus, we have many common experiences."

In separate remarks to reporters, Argentine Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella noted that "Argentina and Poland are undergoing a process of changes. We started ours in 1983, while they started theirs more recently. We maintain cordial relations."

Di Tella reported that Argentine-Polish trade "has increased from \$40 to \$100 million. Although we have focused our main efforts on major countries, there are no unimportant countries in the eyes of Argentina and we want our relations to yield positive results."

Minister Defends Border Agreement With Chile

PY3107231091 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES
HERALD in English 31 Jul 91 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella yesterday said the much-vaunted border agreement between Argentina and Chile had not yet been initialed

but would be signed in full detail on Friday [2 August] by Presidents Carlos Menem and Patricio Aylwin.

Di Tella defended the decision to settle the Laguna del Desierto border feud through arbitration in a meeting with members of the Lower House foreign affairs and defence committees. "The government understands that the concepts of the fatherland and of territory are strongly linked and therefore it will not exchange land for economic progress," said the minister.

Denying Argentina would have to roll back its borders in the remote southern area, Di Tella insisted that "we are defending our territory in the best possible manner and are reaching a very satisfactory outcome."

"Instead of facing mandatory arbitration in the disputed area, we agreed to have the Organization of American States (OAS) intervene and prevent foreign powers from playing the role of arbiters," he added in reference to Switzerland.

The courts joined the dispute yesterday when Federal Judge Martin Irurzun requested information from both Congress and the Foreign Ministry on the pact to be signed this week in Buenos Aires.

Retired Generals Ricardo Echeverry Boneo and Jorge Silva Raimondi also asked Judge Horacio Garzon Funes to order a freeze on border negotiations.

In Rio Gallegos, the government faced a critical test when Deputy Foreign Minister Juan Carlos Olima reported to local leaders on the proposed arbitration in Laguna del Desierto.

Defending the plan amid fierce popular opposition, Olima insisted that Argentina "won't give up a single centimetre of its territory."

He explained that arbitration "is the only feasible alternative for a peaceful settlement contemplated in the peace and friendship treaty signed in 1984."

Olima held a marathon round of meetings starting at midnight on Monday with provincial cabinet members and legislators, leaders of local organizations and Santa Cruz Bishop Miguel Alemann.

There were moments of tension when a group of around 50 people attempted to break into the provincial legislature as Olima addressed the chamber of the border question.

Braving freezing temperatures, the protesters rallied outside the building shouting insults at President Carlos Menem. Windows were shattered and cars sprayed with paint but the intervention of provincial deputy Juan Carlos Barbieri averted a more serious confrontation between security guards and demonstrators.

Some members of Olima's delegation were reportedly roughed up in the incidents but there were no serious injuries.

Insults also abounded during Olima's report in the local government house, where he was branded, among other things, a "mercenary traitor."

But Olima stood his ground, saying: "We firmly believe we have the legal and historical arguments needed to uphold our rights over the Laguna del Desierto area and the continental icebergs."

"Going to arbitration definitely does not mean giving up territory," he emphasized.

During the debate, Olima received the support of Peronist Governor Hector Garcia as well as former governor and national Deputy Arturo Puricelli, who heads the local Justicialist Party branch and is running again for provincial office.

Some 150 people, including lawmakers, officials and journalists, will head for Laguna del Desierto today, more specifically the Rio Electrico outpost where a huge tent has been set up for a symbolic session.

The caravan of three buses, several pickup trucks and light vehicles will take several hours to reach the area due to poor road maintenance and heavy snowfall.

The legislators will reaffirm the sovereign rights of Argentina over the region and swear in a new deputy, Roque Ocampo—a teacher and former Border Guard member and the ex-director of the Santa Cruz frontiers area.

'Final End' to Conflict

PY0108003091 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
1529 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Jul (TELAM)—Argentine Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella said today that Argentine rights over the Laguna del Desierto region in Santa Cruz Province "are unquestionable and very strong." He added that the arbitration "to which we are obligated by the treaty signed in 1984 will show that Argentina is right."

Di Tella said that "putting a final end" to the border conflicts with Chile "has an extraordinary importance" but "we are not negotiating territory" to attain this; on the contrary, "we are strongly defending our rights in every one of the 24 points of discussion."

Di Tella made these comments after meeting with President Carlos Menem at Government House this morning in connection with a visit by Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski.

Regarding the position taken by various sectors of the people of Santa Cruz, Di Tella said: "I see nothing wrong with the demonstration in support of our rights over Laguna del Desierto. On the contrary, the desire of the provincial legislators is what we want and we believe this is what will occur."

Di Tella explained that [words indistinct] in Laguna del Desierto "the two countries agree on all things that must

be done; that is, the demarcation of the boundary through the waters of the high mountains."

He added that there are "two positions: The one we believe is the right one and the other, which is advocated by Chile. We believe that the arbitration to which we are obligated by the treaty signed in 1984 will show that Argentina is right."

He made it clear that the arbitration is not within an OAS framework. He added: "I believe this issue was not clearly explained. The facilities of the OAS Juridical Committee, which is headquartered in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, will be used, but the arbitration group members will be chosen individually."

Di Tella said: "The members are not part of any OAS arbitration system, but the infrastructure that will be used belongs to the Juridical Committee." He added that the names of the arbitration group members will be made public on 2 August.

Comparing the Beagle problem and the current conflict, Di Tella pointed out that "there are great differences. The Beagle case was an important maritime problem involving the earth and the sea. It was also an issue that had a very different geostrategy."

Di Tella added: "In the case of Laguna del Desierto we have an area of 500 square kilometers that is a very important area. Based on consultations, we believe our rights will be recognized by any arbitration group."

Di Tella confirmed that the Armed Forces "were informed, but not consulted on this issue because it is not appropriate for the government to make this type of consultation."

He added: "The Armed Forces were informed in detail. Specific questions were asked and they only took note of the government decision."

Di Tella also pointed out that Congress "will only have to ratify the issue of the continental divide because the other issue is absolutely in agreement with the 1984 agreement."

Asked if this is the true final end to the border conflicts with Chile, Di Tella said: "Yes it is. Behind that question there is the thought that every time we put an end to an issue with Chile that country brings up a new one."

Di Tella concluded by saying: "It is not like that. That thought could make us live with some kind of persecution complex. Historically, it has not been like that. There have been four arbitrations in the history of our relations."

Menem Reaffirms Support for Pro-Government Union

PY3107232091 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES
HERALD in English 31 Jul 91 p 11

[Text] (DYN)—President Carlos Menem reaffirmed his support for the pro-government CGT [General Confederation of Labor]-San Martin yesterday and stated that it is the only labour confederation recognized by the government.

The president then invited the pro-government labour organization to participate in a "Productivity Congress," which will be set up by the executive branch.

The CGT-San Martin was concerned with the government's stance towards the labour organization because Vice-President Eduardo Duhalde has met recently with Metal Workers Union [UOM] Secretary-General Lorenzo Miguel to discuss the congressional candidacy of UOM leader Luis Guerrero.

Although Menem justified Duhalde's meetings with Miguel, he added that "there are other labour leaders who will be left out," referring to Restaurant Workers Union leader Luis Barrionuevo and CGT-Azopardo Secretary General Saul Ubaldini.

Meanwhile, the CGT-Azopardo said it would not support Ubaldini's campaign if he runs outside the Justicialist Party structures as at present.

The CGT-Azopardo also gave its San Martin rival 10 days to call a labour congress and unite the labour movement. If the CGT-San Martin fails to respond, the CGT-Azopardo will call its own congress to elect a new CGT.

The CGT-Azopardo accused its rivals of working for the government and thus betraying the labour movement. It further criticized the government's economic plan, stating among other things that mid-year bonuses do not cause inflation cycles. However, the union leaders failed to criticize President Menem directly.

In related election news, Duhalde offered the second position in congressional slate to ex-Judge Alberto Piotti, which he accepted, sources close to both politicians confirmed yesterday.

Piotti, who was running for governor with the Autonomist Party, officially announced his acceptance. The former judge's aides said that the Autonomist Party would drop out of the Buenos Aires province elections.

Before Duhalde made the proposal to Piotti, Corrientes Autonomist Senator Jose Antonio Romero Feris said that an alliance with the Justicialist Party would have to be discussed by the party leadership.

The Autonomist Front proposes to form in Buenos Aires an "alternative force with a national and popular orientation, federalist platform and launch a national project for 1995."

If Duhalde only offers the party one position on his slate, there would not be the basis for an alliance, Romero Feris said.

Furthermore, Buenos Aires gubernatorial candidate Santiago De Estrada denied being asked to join the Duhalde-Roma slate. "I would not support the parties responsible for the actual national situation," De Estrada said. He is running for the Independent Front.

Meanwhile, Buenos Aires Governor Antonio Cafiero said that he opposes the August 25 party authority elections. The governor wants to continue governing the province until September 8 when he will pass on the responsibility to the governor-elect.

Judge's Objections to Identity Document Noted

PY3107233091 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES
HERALD in English 31 Jul p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Less than 24 hours after a court ruling quashing a 293-million-dollar contract signed between the government and a French company for the supply of identity documents to all Argentine citizens, Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa flew to Paris with his young wife in an attempt to salvage the agreement.

The minister will try to obtain a postponement of the August 5 deadline for submitting Argentina's guarantees to the French government, otherwise "the contract will crumble down on me," stated Mera Figueroa.

The minister further said the government would appeal the judge's decision but there is a question of legal terms involved as the Ministry has not been formally notified of the sentence and argued that "the judge has made a mistake: This is an agreement arrived at between two governments, not with a French company," and that "the call for national or international tenders"—which was not done—"is a resort of the executive power."

However, Judge Oscar Garzon Funes, who imposed the ruling stripping the contract of all legality, objected to the contract on grounds that it was awarded directly and the government's argument that this was done "for reasons of urgency and security." [sentence as published]

"There are illegitimate and unacceptable clauses" in the contract (among them "a kind of insurance or guarantee to be paid to the French company in case the contract doesn't go through"), explained the magistrate, which "would indicate a particular intention to favour the other contracting party" (the French company SOF-REMI). "In fact," added judge Garzon Funes, "the contract looked like a *fait accompli* as it had been signed in November last year."

Moreover, "about 11 items involving tax and Customs exemptions are included in the contract, which puts this company in a privileged position with respect to any other bidder," pointed out the judge, and emphasized: "This is very important because in a business transaction businessmen accept the chance of winning or losing whereas in this case they (the government) were guaranteeing the (French company's) profits."

Other irregularities mentioned by the judge are the following: While the executive's decree bases the contract on "defence necessities," the agreement would have been in force over 15 to 25 years thus "tying us down to a technology which has been discarded in France itself" (it was discontinued in that country four years ago after

it was found not to yield the expected results); the National Audit Court had expressed itself against the arrangement as it was "a breach of the accounting and convertibility laws," etc.

Judge Garzon Funes wrapped up his position saying "I'm not a corrupt judge" and concluded that the (Argentine) "society as a whole would have been damaged if this contract had succeeded."

Air Force Chief Cites Need for More Funds

PY3107231291 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES
HERALD in English 31 Jul 91 p 11

[Text] (DYN)—Air Force chief Brigadier-General Jose Antonio Julia made a harsh description of the difficult budgetary situation of the Air Force yesterday in the Senate and emphasized the need of funds for training programmes.

"We need a special booster of four million dollars," he said.

Julia spoke for about two hours to the members of both the Senate and the Lower House's Defence Committees.

The legislators agreed with the requests of the Air Force chief and also with the need to restructure this service with a view to achieving a "satisfactory operational level."

Economist To Head National Securities Commission

PY3107225091 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES
HERALD in English 31 Jul 91 p 3

[From the "Business World" column]

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Economist Martin Redrado will assume the presidency of the National Securities Commission today. Economy Ministry Spokesman Adrian Gomez announced yesterday. Redrado had been assigned to his new post last week, and assumes today.

World Bank Loan To Restructure Public Sector

PY3107224691 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES
HERALD in English 31 Jul 91 p 3

[Text] (DYN)—Argentina received a 325 million dollar loan from the World Bank yesterday, on the heels of a 1,040 million dollar stand-by from the IMF on Monday [29 July].

The 12-year loan carries a 7.73 interest rate and a five-year grace period.

The loan will be used to finance the restructuring of Argentina's bloated public sector.

Argentina will receive a second installment of the World Bank loan in December or next January, this time totalling 400 million dollars.

One of the main beneficiaries of the loan will be the DGI [General Directorate of Taxation]

Gas Stations Threaten To Increase Prices

PY3107225491 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES
HERALD in English 31 Jul 91 p 3

[Text] (DYN)—Petrol stations will increase prices by eight percent if the government fails to take "urgent" action to improve profit margins. FECRA [expansion unknown] petrol stations association President Roberto Scali said yesterday.

In a press conference held at the FECRA headquarters in Buenos Aires, Scali pointed out that large oil firms compete "unfairly" with independent gas stations because they can retain oil taxes.

Additionally, gas stations have found their profitability margins squeezed by high petrol costs, he said.

Reduced profits have rendered the payment of taxes on gross earnings impossible, Scali stressed, and he threatened a lock-out if prices paid by oil stations to suppliers were to increase further.

"Commercial freedom does not exist at this moment" for the sector, he said.

Scali added that 200 independent petrol stations may face imminent closure due to the impossibility of competing with company stations.

Meanwhile, Justicialist Deputy Antonio Cassa said yesterday that the Lower Chamber of Congress will reject the Senate-approved draft bill sponsored by Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo which grants the right of retaining oil taxes exclusively to multinational corporations.

If approved by Congress, the draft bill would remove the right to retain taxes of the two national oil companies, Astra and Compania General de Combustibles.

Various deputies called the draft bill "discriminatory."

Correction to Officials Alleged Money Laundering

PY3007125591

[Text] The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Officials Allegedly Involved in Money Laundering," published in the 30 July Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 31:

Column two, paragraph thirteen, only sentence, make read: ...not have problems." [new graf]

Hernandez is accused of... (correcting typo)

Bolivia

Commander Reports No Change in Border Deployment

PY0108032491 La Paz Television Boliviana
Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 1 Aug 91

[Text] A commission has not been sent to study the removal of border markers on the border with Chile.

Although the removal of some border markers has been confirmed, the usual military units—made up of 27 fully equipped soldiers—remain in the area. It is a small number of soldiers to patrol such an extensive area. Army Commander in Chief General Sandoval has reported the following with regard to this subject:

[Begin recording, in progress] [Sandoval] ... permanently, and we are controlling all border markers. Now, it is true that a border marker change has been verified and the Foreign Ministry is handling this problem.

[Unidentified reporter] Why can't some military units be sent to those areas?

[Sandoval] We have signed some treaties that prohibit the presence of large military units in the border regions. However, we do have military posts in the remote areas. They are staffed by 27 fully equipped soldiers. The border markers are a considerable distance apart and we sometimes patrol the area by foot and other times, in vehicles, but we are always controlling them. [end recording]

Army Troops Sent to Border

PY3107183491 Buenos Aires Radio Nacional Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Bolivian Army troops have been stationed in the township of Llica, in southeastern Bolivia in the wake of the conflict over the possible loss of some 25 square km of Bolivian territory. President Paz Zamora today called for calm and unity in light of the attitude of some Chilean citizens, as reported by peasants living in this region of Bolivia that borders with Chile.

Attack on Energy Tower; Rebel Group Suspected

PY3007152291 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Reported by Antonio Cerro Fino from Cochabamba]

[Text] The Departmental Prefecture has instructed the state security organizations and the departmental police to thoroughly investigate the identity of those responsible for the dynamite attack on a high-tension energy tower at about 2030 on 26 July.

According to official data released on 29 July, terrorists attacked a 15,000-volt high-tension energy tower at km 7 on the road to Sacaba. The energy tower was virtually undamaged. According to the first report released by the police bomb squad, the dynamite was placed about 1.5 meters from the base of the 15-meter high tower. The explosive caused practically no damage to the tower which, according to the National Electricity Enterprise, Ende, is worth about \$3,000.

According to police sources, the so-called Tupac Katari Group could be responsible for the attack because their pamphlets were found at the site. This attack has been rejected by the local residents. The prefecture and police personnel have pointed out that they will adopt strict

measures to prevent similar attacks in the future. The first step toward this objective consists of strict surveillance of Ende facilities and high-tension energy towers.

New Judicial Police Department Chief Named

PY3007131291 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Jul 91 p 4

[Summary] Colonel Carlos Cazzazola Morales has been installed as the new commander of the Criminology and Judicial Police Department, replacing Colonel Renan Lopez Azurduy.

Brazil

* Collor Views Debt Payment, NPT, GATT

91SM0432A Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 16 Jul 91 pp 1-A, 10-A

[Interview with President Fernando Collor de Mello by Flavio Tavares; in Brasilia; date not given: "The End of Bipolarity Created the Great Empire of the North"]

[Text] Brasilia, 15 July—President Fernando Collor de Mello, the youngest chief of state in the Americas at 41, is thinking of the future and is determined to confront the legacy of problems left by over two decades of governments not elected by the people of Brazil: "The Iberoamerican Summit in Guadalajara should be the point of departure for a comprehensive analysis of the situation in Latin America with a view to the coming millennium. The end of the bipolar ideological division has not yet brought with it prosperity and peace; on the contrary, it has led to the emergence of a great empire, the 'Empire of the North,' which is absolutely rich, in control of the most advanced forms of knowledge, and lacking any counterweight. In this new world of the prosperous North and the poor South, we must rethink our relations."

In an exclusive interview that lasted more than an hour in his office at the Planalto Palace, Collor de Mello spoke emphatically about "the problems that plague three-quarters of the human race, those who do not have the minimum requirements for survival." His concerns sound like those of an experienced, older politician: "We must rethink the current Western model of development," he stressed.

Only his childlike smile, his alert eyes and his wrinkle-free face reveal the extreme youthfulness of this president who likes to water-ski, runs 5 km every morning, and is a "black belt" in karate. The erect posture and quick step of this lanky man make it obvious that he is an athlete. Two tufts of prematurely gray hair betray the worries of his 16 months in office.

"The debate on this new bipolarity that is beating at our doors must begin immediately," says Collor de Mello, concerned about the Third World's difficulties in gaining

access to new technology. "Technology should be the legacy of all mankind, not just a few," he declares.

As president of the largest and most populous country in Latin America, and the country with the largest foreign debt on earth (\$122 billion), Collor de Mello understands that indebtedness "is not a mere banking transaction, or a matter of adding and subtracting, or a debit and credit operation."

Brazil will honor its commitments, and has no intention of repeating the moratorium experiences. "But it is not just a question of paying; the debt must be seen in a context that also includes new investments. The two go hand in hand."

His recent meeting with President George Bush in Washington left him with the conviction that the leader of the United States "is extremely sensitive and understands very well" the position that the debtors should not exceed the country's payment capacity, so that the population is not forced to make even more sacrifices: "Bush's sensitivity is not enough, however; there are other sources of power in the world that are pulling in another direction and preventing the President of the United States from prevailing," he says of the major international banks, without mincing words.

The fundamental problems of the Third World, he argues, are derived from the inequalities between the North and the South and the West's perverse model of development. Everything from the threat of environmental degradation of the Amazon, for example, to exchange relations is subordinated to the two issues mentioned above. Collor de Mello has put in motion a process of "opening markets," but he wonders why the rich countries have not reciprocated. Sometimes they have been extremely protectionist; some primary goods from Latin America, such as Brazilian orange juice, he explains, are subject to a higher tariff in the United States than Japanese industrialized goods.

"The unfortunate events in the Persian Gulf prevented any specific focus on North-South relations after the fall of the ideological bipolarity between the United States and the USSR." And the inequalities are so absurd, he says, that "a cow in the European Community has a per capita income of \$2,400 a year, more than 60 percent of what most humans receive," [as published]

Ecological degradation, especially in the Amazon, requires a new look at the Western model of development. "How can we preserve our natural resources, which are finite, while maintaining a vision of profit that is infinite?" His conclusion sums up an entire critique: "We cannot continue enjoying our natural resources in a predatory manner for the sake of a pseudo-development that is included in the North-South conflict."

During the lengthy interview, Collor de Mello expressed optimism about the democratization of the Southern Cone. He cited Mexico's peaceful and civil tradition as "a great example," and emphasized that the nuclear race

between Brazil and Argentina, for example, is now a thing of the past. He indicated that his personal decision to plug up "with a shovelful of lime" the hole of the future test site for exploding a Brazilian atomic device in the northern part of the country was a gesture indicating his express withdrawal from the arms race "and from hegemonistic pretensions."

The experience showed him that "the state must be redesigned." Thus, he believes that "destatization is an inexorable process." In the case of Brazil, the privatization of state enterprises is even "a means of restoring the state's investment capacity in the public sector with a view to reducing the vast social disparities that exist today." The state is not now in a position to reinvest for the modernization of its companies, "and it must be made smaller so that it can be an efficient state."

Beside his writing desk, a microcomputer that he personally operates is perhaps a symbol of his desire for efficiency. In the huge, futuristic office in the Planalto Palace, however, the only decoration is a traditional one: a porcelain statue of St. Francis of Assisi, the saint who devoted his life to the poor and of whom Collor de Mello is a devotee. The statue replaced the portrait of Emperor Pedro I, the mundane and bohemian Portuguese prince who gave Brazil its independence, that used to hang on the wall as a decoration during the previous military regime.

When we asked him about the possibility that, in the wake of recent events in Colombia, drug traffickers might take advantage of Brazil's vast stretches of land to establish themselves in that country, Collor de Mello crossed himself as he listened to the question, as if to seek divine protection against such a threat. This simple and spontaneous gesture caused this reporter and Press Secretary Claudio Humberto Rosa e Silva (the only witness to the interview) to focus their attention on a tiny statuette of the Virgin Mary on the desk.

"I hope this possibility never comes to pass. But we are prepared to face that eventuality. Drug trafficking, however, has only prospered in countries where it was able to take advantage of armed, guerrilla movements. And they do not exist in Brazil anymore. They are not even a ghost in our society, where there is now broad participation in government decisions," responded Collor.

The Thought of Collor de Mello

Between questions and answers, the Brazilian president expressed his thought in the following manner throughout the interview:

[Tavares] You are specifically committed to Latin American integration. In the case of the summit in Guadalajara, what can be done to take the idea of integration beyond mere expressions of desire and turn it into actual deeds?

[Collor de Mello] This First Iberoamerican Summit is taking place at a very unique time in human history.

either because of the new political configuration of the world, the formation of economic blocs, or the irreversible arrival of democracy on our continent. Moreover, the integrationist thrust that is mobilizing us Latin Americans makes it clear that this will be the first in a series of meetings where we will be able to discuss the current world situation with a view to a profound analysis of the future of humanity in the coming millennium.

How, for example, do we find economically viable and socially just solutions to the problems that plague the so-called South, the so-called bloc of developing countries? The end of the ideologically bipolar world suggested that the idea of democracy, liberal-social ideals, the notions of respect for human rights and public liberties, and therefore the affirmation of the democratic constitutions of the world, had triumphed at last, and that we would enjoy a period of peace and tranquility in a multipolar world. Unfortunately, however, this is not what we are seeing right now.

[Tavares] What is missing, what happened?

[Collor de Mello] This ideologically bipolar world was succeeded by a world that is bipolar in terms of disparities in development and prosperity. And this bipolarity is being exacerbated by the formation of increasingly protectionist megablocs. Cato, considering the destruction of Carthage, asked himself, What will happen to Rome without its enemies? I ask myself, What will happen now, with that tremendous vacuum resulting from the end of ideological bipolarization and the emergence of a Great Empire, the Empire of the North, without rival, absolutely rich and prosperous, master of the most advanced forms of knowledge and with no counterweight?

I do not posit the South as the enemy of the North. On the contrary, I think we must make an effort at solidarity. In view of the separation of the North, the South must propose an item for the agenda: What will be the future of humanity? What will be left for three-quarters of humanity in the next millennium? What will be set aside for the three-quarters who suffer from brutal deprivation, without even the minimum conditions for survival, living in constant worry?

This is the topic that I think we should put on the agenda and debate objectively, rationally, seeking solidarity in solutions. How can the North cooperate in the effort to reduce these disparities with the South? I think that this first Iberoamerican gathering can plant the seed for that discussion.

[Tavares] To organize a joint action, as a group?

[Collor de Mello] Perhaps. Because the South makes no demands. We do not want the North to regard us with a romantic vision, as an "amateur," but the South wants reciprocity, mutual respect. The effort that is being made in Latin America to seek democratic stability in conjunction with economic stability, in the sense of the opening

up of our markets, our trade relations, should be given due recognition, for example. But we must also have access to new forms of technology—and I mean clean technology—because we oppose very emphatically that possession of the results of knowledge and progress.

That cannot belong to "a," "b," or "c," because that technology can solve the problems of several countries at the same time. I believe that technology is the property of humanity, not of just a few people.

[Tavares] Because, among other things, it is the result of a cumulative effort "ad secula seculorum," for centuries and centuries?

[Collor de Mello] Yes. We have all played a part, one way or another. A good beginning for the discussion of this new bipolarism that is beating on our doors is the problem of trade relations, the fact that we are opening up our markets and that we need access to more advanced forms of technology to overcome our difficulties and attain self-sustained development. The regrettable events in the Persian Gulf may have prevented this vision of North-South relations, which I find to be a pragmatic one, from emerging prior to now. I think that now, right this minute, we must put this on the agenda for discussions in multilateral bodies or in the talks that chiefs of state hold with their counterparts in the North.

This is what concerns me. The rest will follow of its own accord if there is integration. If we do not try to integrate ourselves, we will lose the opportunity to strengthen ourselves and make our own effort to change the terms of trade to make them more favorable. This is an imposition. It is enough merely for us to have a proper instrument, and that will follow quickly in a manner that is mutually advantageous to all participants in the integration.

But the results must be felt quickly in the population's pocketbooks and on their kitchen tables. Many say, "Integration is fine, but everything is still the same." So the only way to make society as a whole understand the meaning of integration is ensure that it brings about rapid, effective, and practical results.

[Tavares] From that perspective, how will it be possible to resolve the crucial dilemma of the foreign debt, in that the more you pay the more you owe? Is this not the greatest challenge?

[Collor de Mello] The matter of the debt is of the utmost importance in North-South relations. But it is also a very delicate and sensitive issue. As the existing gap widens—and it is already unacceptable because it creates flagrant injustices—the problem of the debt becomes even more serious. Why? Because the South must necessarily be an "importer" of capital in order to supplement external resources and finance its sustained development. Nevertheless, at present, indeed for the past decade, the South has been an "exporter" of capital. In this context, how can we reconcile that situation, in which the more we pay the more we owe? We cannot look at the Third World's

debt as a mere banking transaction, or as an addition and subtraction problem, or as a debit and credit operation. The matter of the debt must be inserted in a much larger context that covers other areas.

For this reason, Brazil advanced the idea that the payment of the debt should be based on the country's actual payment capacity. The negotiation of back interest on the Brazilian debt adhered rigorously to that standard.

[Tavares] Did President Bush understand that?

[Collor de Mello] President Bush has a perfect understanding of the matter. I always try to emphasize not only President Bush's understanding, but also his sensitivity to the problem. This is important, but it is not enough. There are other sources of power in the world that are pulling in another direction, and they are thus preventing the President of the United States from prevailing.

[Tavares] Should the overall context be modified, then?

[Collor de Mello] The debt can only be viewed in that overall context. The South cannot remain an exporter of capital. I am speaking of the South as a citizen of the South, but most particularly as president of the republic, because I do not have the power to speak on behalf of those who live in this region and who may even have an opinion different from mine.

But let us say Brazil instead of the South. We do not want to stop paying the debt; we do not intend to become black sheep. Not at all. We want to fulfill our obligations, but we want this to be done without requiring that the Brazilian people make an even greater sacrifice than they have been making for a long time.

[Tavares] And how is the situation to be viewed?

[Collor de Mello] It is not just a matter of paying the debt in accordance with the country's ability to honor its commitments; it is also a matter of attracting new investment. The two go hand in hand. We need new investment. Sometimes we hear a voice that says: But how can Brazil want new investment, when its market is closed and extremely protected?

To rule out those arguments, we are demonstrating that Brazil does not want competition, that Brazil does not feel it is predestined to enter the so-called higher plane of development as a matter of sovereignty; on the contrary, it naturally needs to find a counterpart for its attitudes of self-confidence and its simultaneous willingness to open up to the world. We need a counterpart in terms of reciprocity for our openness.

For this reason, it is difficult to understand the extremely protectionist attitude of the European Community at the Uruguay Round of the GATT. How is it possible for a European cow, or a head of livestock in Europe, for example, to earn a per capita income of \$2,400 a year, which is more than what 60 percent of the human race lives on?

[Tavares] And that European livestock is fed soybeans from Brazil ...?

[Collor de Mello] Yes, it is fed something that is of top nutritional quality. Soybeans are rich in protein, but on the international market the price is distorted. And that is yet another problem. Many primary products from the South are exported at competitive prices but are hit with high tariffs. I am referring not only to soybeans and wheat; I can also cite the example of orange juice, which is subject to a brutal tariff.

[Tavares] Is Brazilian orange juice subject to a higher tariff than other imported orange juice in the United States?

[Collor de Mello] The tariff on Brazilian orange juice is even higher than that imposed on industrialized goods. Even the tariff on Japanese industrialized products is lower than that on Brazilian orange juice. We want to have an opening here, some reciprocity. They should give us competitive terms, setting aside any kind of favoritism. We want reciprocal treatment and solidarity as the world approaches the threshold of the third millennium. Integration is on the right track. Brazil and Argentina, for example, will be integrated by 1994, although prior plans had called for integration by the year 2000. We are resolving some disagreements with our partners to the North, such as the nuclear question. Unilaterally, Brazil and Argentina renounced the article of the Treaty of Tlatelolco that, oddly enough, allows atomic explosions for peaceful purposes, as if any kind of atomic explosion could be used for that purpose.

[Tavares] How is it that Brazil has not ratified the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)?

[Collor de Mello] We will be taking a great step now, at that meeting. During the days of that meeting, Brazil and Argentina, President Menem and I, will sign a new document on nuclear issues that is the second phase of the Treaty of Iguazu, between the two countries.

[Tavares] The one that allowed the reciprocal inspection of nuclear facilities?

[Collor de Mello] Yes, the one that allowed the inspection of facilities. Then, in September or October, in Vienna we will sign the documents to join the international agency, the one on atomic energy. Brazil did not sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty on nuclear weapons because that document creates certain difficulties for access to technology. In showing that it is unilaterally giving up any possibility of making a device, the Brazilian Government is dispelling all doubts. Many thought, wrongly, that we were not signing the Non-Proliferation Treaty because we intended to build a nuclear device.

[Tavares] That was the impression people had in many places.

[Collor de Mello] Yes, that was the impression. But with our willingness to expressly give it up, it is clear that

these arguments have no grounds. Our refusal to sign the NPT is based on the fact that, in certain ways, the treaty can become a straitjacket that would hinder our access to new forms of technology that are fundamental to the prosperity of Brazil and other countries. Professor Jose Goldenberg (the nuclear physicist who is his secretary of technology) says, very rightly: "There is a knife. And it can be used for the kitchen, to cut up food, or as a weapon."

[Tavares] It can be used to slice bread or to kill.

[Collor de Mello] That is right. But herein lies the technological problem. We cannot do without the knife. That is true of supercomputers. Some argue that if we buy one, we can do this or that. But for Brazil, the supercomputer is important for our technological advancement, so that we can make Embraer, the state aircraft manufacturing company, more competitive.

[Tavares] On the nuclear issue, then, the main thing would be the political commitment?

[Collor de Mello] Yes, and that is clear and obvious. Brazil clearly demonstrated that it is not taking the path of confrontation, and that from now on, with democratic instruments of control, it can meet those commitments.

[Tavares] Can your government be the guarantor of this?

[Collor de Mello] That was why I went personally and, with a shovelful of lime, I plugged the hole in the pipeline that was built (in Cachimbu, northern Brazil) for atomic testing. I made that gesture so that everything else would be relegated to the past. That was a different Brazil, a different world. Today there are new horizons. The more we work for democratic consolidation, the more society will enjoy the means and the power to oversee and to deliberate. It is true that there were difficulties. But today there is an awareness that Brazil—and also Argentina, with the exemplary attitude of President Menem—has put an end to the nuclear arms race. The two countries with the most advanced nuclear technology in Latin America used to copy each other and confront each other. Today we are moving toward cooperation; we no longer seek hegemonistic positions. Our countries have many problems in common to solve in areas more important than the nuclear sphere. There is the social question, the commitment to democracy, the formation of the great Latin American market, the achievement of higher standards of living. We could not obtain all that if we did not trust each other. We can only achieve it on the basis of mutual trust, as partners.

[Tavares] Today there is the problem of statism and of the state that has become inept and authoritarian out of its own inertia. You have committed yourself to privatization, but do you think you can bring about privatization without negative effects?

[Collor de Mello] The process of destatization is inexorable. There is nothing worse than maintaining a mammoth state. Now, for example, we are beginning to privatize the steel company Usiminas, and we have announced the privatization of another enterprise, CELMA, which builds and maintains turbines. The process is going well. Some contend that the state cannot get rid of a steel company such as Usiminas. But they forget that the steel market is extremely competitive. And competitiveness depends on new technologies being applied to new investments. For this steel company to remain competitive, the state, which is the majority stockholder, would have to invest what it does not have.

[Tavares] The state has no investment capacity?

[Collor de Mello] None, absolutely none. Today that steel company is very healthy, but I do not know how it will be in two years, if the current situation remains the same. Without investment, it will no longer be competitive. It will have to cut costs, which means cutting back on the payroll. And in spite of that, it would not have capital support for new investments. The upshot would be a closure in the medium term, and we do not want that.

The country is undergoing severe social problems because the state has stopped being a producer. The state went beyond its basic responsibilities to enter into an unknown area, where it proved to be inefficient because economic activities were not its field.

To give you a specific idea: To grow between 5 and 6 percent a year, Brazil needs investments of around \$120 billion to \$140 billion yearly.

Today we have investment of just \$80 million. How and where can we find what we need? Some oppose privatization, arguing that the state can do everything, it always has someone who can take everything into account and intervene increasingly in all matters.

[Tavares] Is that the updated theory of the patriarchal state?

[Collor de Mello] Yes, of the patriarchal, paternalistic state. But the state needs to be smaller to be more efficient, so that it can meet its obligations and return to society, in the form of quality public services, what society pays into it in the form of taxes.

Brazil has serious problems in the areas of education, health, transportation, railroads, highways, maritime transportation. In these areas the country needs efficiency that does not exist because the money was channeled into investments in other sectors outside the state's purview.

We must redesign the state, and in Brazil that involves the destatization program that is being carried out with absolute openness and clarity, under a law that took seven months for Congress to pass, but was finally passed.

What we want is to restore the state's investment capacity so that it can invest in areas where it has a constitutional obligation to do so, with a view to reducing tremendous social disparities. This is the focus of the privatizations.

[Tavares] It is said that the dismantling of the drug cartel in Colombia opens up the possibility that Brazil, with its vast stretches of land, will be the new center of drug trafficking operations. Is that just fiction, or reality? If it were to occur, could Brazil deal with the situation?

[Collor de Mello] Brazil has given very clear evidence of its efficiency in combating the drug traffic. This has been recognized in all world conferences on drugs, where there is always praise for Brazil's position in combating the drug traffic. I hope that this situation never comes to pass. Indeed, we are prepared for it. We are vigorously countering any effort, be it consumption or "bypass," to traffic drugs in any part of Brazil. Just now, a few days ago, we broke up a gang and the Federal Police, who are very efficient and competent, seized more than a half-ton of cocaine.

That is why I believe Brazil is not fertile ground for drug traffickers to prosper in our territory. In fact, I should make an observation: In any country where drug traffickers have become established, they have coopted armed movements, guerrilla movements.

[Tavares] Both Peru and Colombia are typical cases

[Collor de Mello] I am not pointing to any one country, but it is clear that drug trafficking is stronger where there is an armed movement that was coopted. And in Brazil there is no such situation. We have left that stage behind. Today, Brazil is a politically harmonious country that is thoroughly imbued with democracy. Society participates vigorously in all decisions made by the government.

There are no more of those specters or ghosts; there is no possibility of linking drug traffickers to other movements to turn Brazil into a drug route. But we are on the alert, prepared to deal with eventual threats. Above all, we are aware of the role that Brazil must play to continue earning its reputation as one of the countries that have done the best job combating drugs in their territory.

[Tavares] The international community still has cause for concern with the ecological degradation of the Amazon. Or do you think that it is no longer a matter of concern?

[Collor de Mello] I think the community can still help us a great deal. Brazil showed its willingness and determination to cooperate with the international community in order to preserve the environment and seek a model of sustained development. The International Ecological Conference in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 will be a decisive forum for focusing on this type of development. We cannot allow that conference to become a mere exchange of ideas or actions that each country can do in relation to others.

If it is limited to that, it will lose its purpose and objective. The great issue of this first international conference should be a contemplation of the western world's current model of development. We cannot attempt to preserve our natural resources, which are finite, by maintaining an infinite vision of aberrant profit. We must rethink the model of development. We cannot continue using and enjoying our natural resources in a predatory manner for the sake of a mere pseudo-development, which must be challenged as part of the North-South conflict.

Sometimes rethinking models of development is not a pleasant prospect for the more developed countries, but the matter must be developed. If we move toward the result that will enable us to find sustained development, the Ecological Conference of Rio will have a broad scope; it will be the point that will separate capital and the quest for profit from the necessary and obligatory preservation of our natural reserves.

[Tavares] Is it the type of development, then, that causes ecological degradation?

[Collor de Mello] Precisely. The president of the Brazilian Environmental Institute, Dr. Tania, told me of her experiences in the Amazon with peasants who cut down chestnut trees (which are a century old) because they need fuel for their cooking fires. For them, the Amazon Indians, cutting trees is almost a matter of survival. They are not enemies of the forest or predators. They have been there for centuries, and they are living without hope, with nothing. All they have are the bodies God gave them, but they have all the needs of human beings.

We must make an effort to raise people's awareness. We must also solve the social problems in the Amazon. Gold prospectors, for example, went there because they were expelled from where they lived. They had no jobs, no means of survival, and they went to look for gold. Jose Lutzenberger himself (the internationally renowned ecologist who is Brazil's secretary of the environment) called my attention to the fact that the gold prospectors, the "garimpeiros," are in fact the strongest people who are able to face all kinds of adversities in a foreign land in order to eke out a living.

These people go to the Amazon in search of survival, because they have no other choice. And the choice represents an economic opportunity that will only be present when the social disparities are reduced, when there is a united effort to deal with common problems. And once again we must recall that the problems of the South sometimes have more to do with the North. Gaia's idea of the spaceship is very well taken. The planet is a huge spaceship on which a quarter of humanity is traveling first class and the other three quarters are in steerage.

Since there is no hot food in steerage, when they heat up their food they end up setting the spaceship on fire. We must urgently find specific solutions for this unjust and

absurd situation. The meeting in Guadalajara, the initiative of the illustrious President Salinas de Gortari, can be the point of departure. We must not waste any time (concludes Collor de Mello with a smile of confidence, backed by the youthful strength of his 41 years).

Radioactive Material Found in Warehouse

PY2907195291 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo
Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 29 Jul 91

[Text] An abandoned warehouse in Sao Paulo has been found to contain a large amount of radioactive material, and, what is worse, many people live near the area.

After receiving reports on the matter, inspectors from the National Commission for Nuclear Energy [CNEN] and the Labor Ministry visited the site early this morning.

When the inspectors arrived at the old Nuclemon [Nuclebras Monazite and Associated Elements, Ltd.] building in southern Sao Paulo, they did not expect to find such a serious situation.

Nuclemon, which belongs to the Brazilian Nuclear Corporations, Inc., the former Nuclebras, had abandoned two big warehouses with radioactive residues spread all over the area. The enterprise has erected a new building near the practically destroyed warehouses, and some 30 workers circulate normally in the area, unaware of the risks.

These bags, many of which are already torn, contain radioactive residues produced by Nuclemon. They are rich in uranium and thorium. They have been piled up in a haphazard manner for at least 10 years. Many people have even slept there.

In a document sent early this year to the Labor Ministry, Nuclemon reported that the warehouses contained only material emitting alpha radioactivity, that is, radioactivity that is practically harmless, except when swallowed. However, after the visit today, not even the experts can determine the level of contamination.

[Begin recording] [Prosecutor Edvon Teixeira] I was shocked by the negligence of people who should have been more responsible, jeopardizing not only the lives of the workers but of the people in general.

[Reporter] And what will the prosecutor's office do about it?

[Teixeira] Tomorrow we will request the Judicial Branch to interdict and isolate this area, bringing criminal and legal charges against those responsible. [end recording]

Prosecutor Fears Radiation

PY3107185091 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Jul 91 p 10

[Text] The Nuclemon [Nuclebras Monazite and Associated Elements, Ltd.] Minero-Chemical Company yesterday had its warehouse in Interlagos intervened by technicians of the Jorge Duprat Figueiredo National Foundation Center for Job Safety, Hygiene and Medicine (Fundacentro), an organization subordinate to the Labor Ministry. This measure was adopted at the request of Prosecutor Edvon Teixeira of the Sao Paulo State Center For Operational Support of Work Accidents [Centro de Apoio Operacional de Acidentes do Trabalho].

Teixeira said that 16 employees of the state enterprise are being exposed to radioactive contamination risks. Technical reports on radioactive readings carried out by Fundacentro agents will be released today. "We will take civil public action against Nuclemon," Teixeira said.

In a note to the press, however, the National Commission for Nuclear Energy (CNEN) has reported that the situation of the 2,000-square-meter warehouse complies with current norms and, according to readings taken yesterday by its technicians, there is no risk of radiation that may harm the people of the region or the environment.

The note explains that since 1986 no radioactive material has been brought in or taken out of the warehouse and that radiation readings were carried out in 1980, 1988, and 1991 by technicians of the CNEN and the company itself. According to CNEN, Nuclemon stores in that warehouse a mineral called caldasite, from which uranium and thorium are extracted to manufacture sophisticated electronic components.

Teixeira argued that Nuclemon exposed its employees, and the people in general, to risks by storing monazite sand containing radioactive elements without adequate technical conditions. According to Fundacentro experts, the material was stored in bags in a brick-built warehouse while it should be kept in lead containers within shielded walls.

Claudenir Donizetti Chimato, director of the Sao Paulo Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industries Workers Union, has said that "radiation is 200 times higher than legal limits."

Truck Containing Radioactive Krypton Stolen

PY3007132891 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO
in Portuguese 29 Jul 91 p 4

[Text] Sao Paulo—A Toyota pickup belonging to the Fassina Transportation Company carrying three lead drums containing Krypton 85 radioactive gas was stolen on the Raposo Tavares Street, near Sorocaba (Sao Paulo State). The Krypton 85 had been imported from the United States by the Arapoti Paper and Celulose

Industry (Inpacel). It was being transported to the Cum-bica Airport from where it was to have been taken to the new company factory in Arapoti (Parana State), which is adjacent to Sao Paulo State.

Inpacel Director Eugenio Rosi said that the material was to have been used to power the computer system of the Electronic Processing Center being built by the company. [sentence as published] He said that the krypton cost about \$500,000.

Rosi added that although the boxes containing the krypton have radioactivity warning symbols, it is not dangerous unless the lead protective drums are opened and the thieves get in direct contact with the glass capsules containing gas.

Rossi said that the material was being transported to Parana State in a lead drum with a special safety lock. The thieves will have to break two seals to have access to the gas capsule. The truck was stolen on the night of 26 July.

Physicist Alcadio Abrao, director of the Nuclear Material Department of the Institute for Nuclear and Energy Research (IPEN), said that Krypton 85 is a gas of low radioactivity and its toxicity depends on the size of the capsule and the time exposed to the gas.

Delegate Moacyr Rodriguez de Mendonca of Itu, which is near the city where the Toyota driver and his aide were left by the thieves, said that the police do not discard the possibility that the criminals were interested in the krypton.

Confusion Over Type Stolen

PY3107141091 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Jul 91 p 10

[Excerpt] Sorocaba—Late yesterday afternoon, the police from Itu, 95 km from Sao Paulo, did not yet have any clues about the four armed men who on Saturday morning stole three steel drums containing radioactive material. There is still no consensus regarding the type of substance that was stolen.

Some reports say it was krypton, a radioactive element for industrial use similar to the Cesium-137. In an official note released yesterday in Rio de Janeiro, the National Commission for Nuclear Energy (CNEN) stated that the stolen material includes five drums of Promethium-147, an element that represents no risk provided that the capsules are not opened. The CNEN added that it has an emergency group ready round-the-clock to take the appropriate measures when the material is recovered. [passage omitted]

Radioactive Waste Storage Planned For Goias

PY3107171691 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Jul 91 p 3

[From the "Coluna do Estado" column]

[Text] Goias Governor Iris Rezende has chosen the town of Abadia, in his home state, for construction of a storage facility for radioactive waste from used Cesium 137. This waste was temporarily stored in Abadia almost four years ago.

Health Minister Signs Cholera Accord With Peru

PY2707215091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2228 GMT 23 Jul 91

[Text] Brasilia, 23 Jul (EFE)—Official sources have reported that Brazilian Health Minister Aleni Guerra and his Peruvian counterpart, Victor Yamamoto, signed in Brasilia today a cooperation agreement on fighting the cholera epidemic, particularly in the Amazon Region.

Guerra and Yamamoto discussed progress made against the disease through joint programs that they have been implementing since May. These programs have largely benefited Peruvian Amazon townships, on the border with Brazil.

The cooperation agreement expands the additional protocol signed in May as an annex to the bilateral health agreement that has been in force since 1965, which only made a generic reference to epidemics without singling out cholera; at that time cholera did not affect either country.

The two ministers agreed on implementing joint measures to monitor the epidemic and to promote sanitation, the exchange of technical information, and educational and training programs in the health area.

Brazil will give Peru 1.6 million cruzeiros (\$477,600) in aid for the installation of a specialized laboratory and for improvement of the water supply and sewage systems in Amazon townships.

A sanitation office, a latrine factory, and 17 checkpoints for Peruvian boats entering Brazil through rivers in the Amazon hinterland will be established.

There have been 220,000 cases of cholera in Peru, and 2,200 people have died. Only 23 people have been infected in Brazil, and no one has died. All of the Brazilian cases have occurred in the Amazon region.

Yamamoto will return to Lima tonight at the end of a 48-hour visit to Brasilia.

Chile

Government Rejects Cuts in Armed Forces Budget

PY3107172691 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 26 Jul 91 p C 2

[Text] Defense Minister Patricio Rojas yesterday dismissed the suggestion by the Communist Party to cut the Armed Forces budget in order to finance an increase in health workers salaries.

Rojas told this to reporters at the end of the ceremony to inaugurate a new Christian Democratic Party headquarters at 1460 Alameda Street. The building was named after former President Eduardo Frei Montalva.

Rojas said that health workers should not demand that their salaries be made equal to those of the rest of the public administration because this measure was already implemented through an adjustment last year which increased lower salary levels by up to 42 percent.

The minister said the health workers' minimum salary is 45,500 pesos "which is significantly higher than during any other previous period. This government has granted health workers an important increase. The adjustment improved their earnings considerably. Their salaries were very low at the end of the previous administration."

Minister Rojas recognized that the minimum salary was 15,000 to 16,000 at the beginning of last year. Adding the salary and the adjustments shows that "no one earns less than 45,500 per month in the health sector which represents an increase of more than 42 percent compared to last year." [figures as published]

Rojas said that considering that the inflation rate stands at nearly 20 percent, the salary increase is important. He added: "I do not mean that an income of 45,000 pesos will solve all problems and meet all needs, but other public servants earn similar salaries and this shows that the leveling of salaries has been overcome. The adjustment for each sector of the institution is another matter that has nothing to do with wage standardization."

Asked about the position of some parties over allocating part of the Armed Forces' fund for the health sector, Rojas said: "The health sector has expanded. I tell those who think that the problems of the health sector could be solved by reducing the Armed Forces' resources that a reorganization process should be carried out and this is matter that will be discussed next year."

Rojas said the next Armed Forces' budget a topic to be discussed by the government and Congress.

He said: "This matter will be analyzed by Congress in October. On that occasion, the fund requested by the Defense Ministry and the resources authorized by Congress will be discussed. The minister will also provide details on the allocation of the fund, on the number of permanent institutions, and on those that can be replaced. Congressmen will listen to the explanations and make decisions in an atmosphere of democracy. I have explained that the 1992 Armed Forces budget is justified and I expect that an agreement will be reached in this sense."

Congress Approves Fishing, Aquaculture Law

PY3107142491 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish
26 Jul 91 p C 3

[Text] Valparaiso—Following the unanimous approval by the Senate and Chamber of Deputies of the report

prepared by a mixed congressional committee, Congress yesterday approved the two draft bills modifying Law No. 18892 on fishing and aquaculture.

The complementary draft bill, which is described in Chapters III and XII on fishing activities and the composition of the national and regional fishing councils, will be sent to the constitutional court to ensure compliance with the Constitution before being sent to the president of the Republic for promulgation.

The two draft bills will be unified through a decree law by the president of the Republic. This will be done before the law is promulgated.

The draft bills approved by Congress yesterday constitute the new Chilean fishing law. They include substantial changes to the original draft bill the executive branch sent to Congress.

Of these changes, the most outstanding is that all important decisions regarding fishing administration will be made by the national and regional fishing councils, which will comprise government representatives, fishing agents, businessmen, and workers. Under the original draft bill, the executive branch and the Fishing Under Secretariat made the decisions.

Another important aspect is the regulation of everything connected with future foreign investment in the fishing sector. Foreign investments will now be regulated by Article 120 and Temporary Article No. 11 of this law. Article No. 120 modifies the navigation law and allows foreign investment, conditioned to respect for the principle of reciprocity. Temporary Article No. 11 safeguards foreign investments and establishes that the principle of reciprocity does not apply to those investments made before 1 June 1991.

Another aspect regulated by the new law is the access to fishing activities and the declarations of fisheries in full exploitation, closure of fisheries, and the calling of bids. A new auction system will be implemented within three years has also been established.

The law establishes as a general principle free access to Chilean fisheries. The closure of fisheries or the declaration of full exploitation of fisheries are considered an exception, and such decision must be made by the national and regional fishing councils.

The new law also regulates and protects small independent fishermen, for whom a five-nautical-mile exclusive zone and territorial waters have been set aside. Small independent fishermen will be helped through a Small Independent Fishermen's Promotion Fund that will be created to acknowledge the importance of the sector.

The approved regulations also create the Fishing Research Fund and fishing patents will be established to finance the research required by the sector for its development.

The new fishing law includes drastic sanctions for those who violate it, especially for those who do not respect fishing

regulations, who fish with illegal equipment, who pollute waters, who do not respect minimum fish sizes, and who do not respect industrial and sports fishing regulations.

The new law includes heavy fines for infractions which will be determined not by local penal courts, but by higher courts.

EL MERCURIO Views Relations With Cuba

PY3107125691 Santiago *EL MERCURIO* in Spanish
25 Jul 91 p A3

[Editorial: "Relationship With Cuba"]

[Text] The resumption of relations, at a consular level, with Cuba has elicited conflicting reactions within political circles and Chilean society. Although the decision to resume relations is the exclusive prerogative of the president of the Republic, some people believe his decision contributes to legitimize Fidel Castro's government before the international community. For the past 32 years Castro has prevented democracy and simultaneously, although unsuccessfully, tried to export his revolution to other countries. Other sectors are, however, ignoring this diplomatic development. They consider it a restricted rapprochement and a way to expedite the transit of people and to promote trade and friendship among the two countries. There seem to be very few advantages to Aylwin's decision. It is hard to overlook the decay of this Caribbean island, the growing isolation being experienced by its leaders, and the failure of the socialist system it advocates.

Chileans have truly witnessed intervention in domestic affairs by the Cuban Government. Proof of this has been gathered, in one or another way, during the previous four administrations. Cuban support for subversion, the use of violence as a means of obtaining power, the misappropriation of fiscal resources, and the failure to honor commercial commitments are proof of Cuban violations of international law. These factors were taken into consideration when relations were broken during President Alessandri's government.

This situation persisted without any changes during President Frei's administration, despite pressure to resume relations. Ties were renewed and enhanced during the Popular Unity government. Fidel Castro's visit to Chile in 1972 is one of the longest visits ever paid by a chief of state. Cuban intervention at that time was obvious and, in the opinion of many, contributed to the failure of the Chilean democratic system. Cuban intervention in the sovereign sectors of the republic became especially obvious during the military regime, when a massive shipment of weapons, open support for terrorism, and the seizure of foodstuff and money belonging to the state was detected. While these abuses were admitted, some aftereffects still prevail. It would have been advisable to have explained the new agreements to the people, thus compensating for the damage and avoiding a repetition of the same political mistakes.

The people are also bothered because when the Ibero-American chiefs of state met with Fidel Castro, they did not collectively express the need to enforce the Santiago Declaration recently promulgated by the OAS. This declaration emphasizes the full implementation of democracy and respect for human rights as priority issues in the region. The fact that the governors did not mention these values renders the resolutions and elements shared within this hemisphere less effective. On this occasion only the presidents of Argentina, El Salvador, Portugal, and Nicaragua criticized the Cuban regime. Fidel Castro interpreted the silence of the remaining countries as approval.

We are thus facing a fait accompli, all remains to be said is that full relations with the Republic of Cuba should not be finalized until the Cuban chief of state publicly voices his decision to respect international law and to respect Chilean sovereignty.

The mere fact consular ties were resumed and time has now passed should not be considered sufficient motive for elevating the level of Chilean diplomatic relations with Cuba.

Navy Commander on Antidrug Trafficking Campaign

PY3107123691 Santiago *LA TERCERA DE LA HORA*
in Spanish 25 Jul 91 p 34

[Text] Navy Commander Admiral Jorge Martinez Busch has announced the Navy is actively working against drugs and drug trafficking. He said the Navy is cooperating with the Carabineros and the Investigative Police. He said that drugs are being smuggled by sea.

He confirmed at the La Moneda Palace a few days ago the high command of the Navy met with the high command of the Carabineros in Valparaiso. He described it as a friendly meeting.

Asked if cooperation in fighting crime was discussed he said: "We are not responsible for fighting crime. That task clearly belongs to the Carabineros and the Investigative Police. We are cooperating in some aspects and it is always desirable to be well informed. It was a friendly meeting, which I consider it to be very important."

Asked if this cooperation includes the fight against drug trafficking he said: "According to the law, the Navy is responsible for security, control, and discipline in ports, and for port and maritime activities. We are working in that field. When something occurs or when evidence is obtained, we coordinate with the Carabineros and the Investigative Police. There is concern because sea routes are being used in one way or another to smuggle drugs and other things. This problem concerns everybody and we must all do our part to prevent the proliferation of drugs. This and all types of smuggling must be stopped at any cost."

Government Asks Las Condes Mayor To Resign

PY3107184491 Santiago Radio Chilena Network
in Spanish 1700 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Enrique Krauss has confirmed the government has asked Las Condes Mayor Sergio Trucco to tender his resignation for political and not for personal reasons. Trucco is a militant of the PAC [Center Alliance Party].

The minister said the government does not object to his personal or professional work, but that President Aylwin finds it necessary to make some changes to improve his administration. [passage omitted]

Surplus Recorded in Trade Balance of Payments

PY3107034491 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish
24 Jul 91 p B 1

[Summary] According to the Central Bank, the Chilean trade balance for the first six months of 1991 showed a surplus of \$1.254 billion; this is 37 percent higher than the same period last year. This surplus is due to a 6.4 percent increase in exports, which totaled \$4.5999 billion, and a 1.8 percent drop in imports, which totaled \$3.345 billion. The Central Bank report also noted that the balance of payments for this same period showed a surplus of \$476.6 million.

Steel Output Increases in First Half of 1991

PY3007030691 Santiago Television Nacional
de Chile Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Jul 91

[Summary] The Latin American Institute of Iron and Steel, ILAFA, has reported that Chilean steel output during the first half of the year increased 34.1 percent compared with the same period last year.

Chuquicamata Copper Workers Union Leader Resigns

PY3107123091 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA
in Spanish 25 Jul 91 p 14

[Summary] Hernan Santelices, Chuquicamata Copper Mine labor union leader, has tendered his resignation. Santelices will be replaced by Hector Alaniz Godoy.

Millions of People Reportedly Living in 'Poverty'

PY2907130891 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile
Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Jul 91

[Excerpt] Some 5.2 million Chileans are living in poverty and a great effort is needed to solve this dramatic problem. Reporter Ricardo Urzua will give us further details:

[Begin Urzua recording] Good morning. The figures are cold, but they reflect the real situation. Between 1970 and December 1990, poverty practically doubled in Chile. Today, 34 percent of Chilean homes can be considered poor. This situation affects some 5.2 million Chileans. Of this total, 1.2 million can be considered indigent.

What constitutes poor? According to Mideplan [Planning Ministry], poor means a family group with a minimum monthly income equal to, or less than, 76,000 pesos. Indigent families earn less than 38,000 pesos monthly. The level of poverty one year ago was 4 percent higher but, following the social policies implemented at that time, the level of poverty has dropped. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Colombia**Gaviria on U.S. Ambassador's Comments**

PA0108044791 Bogota Inravisión Television
Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Aug 91

[Text] The Latin American Parliament began its session in Cartagena today. President Cesar Gaviria attended the event and said that Colombia will have a new congress that is free of corruption. Upon his return to Bogota, President Gaviria talked with 24 Horas newscast reporter Raul Gutierrez and commented on U.S. Ambassador Thomas McNamara's refusal to repatriate Colombian prisoners.

[Begin recording] [Gutierrez] The U.S. ambassador said that his country would not endorse the repatriation of Colombian citizens who are imprisoned there, yet Father Garcia Herreros is mediating to achieve this. I would like to hear about the government's position. Will [changes thought] is the government interested in a repatriation?

[Gaviria] Yes, yes, we might be interested in repatriation. We have certainly achieved results with Mexico but, evidently, this is strictly a bilateral issue. There is nothing we can do if the other country is not interested because the policy, like the U.S. ambassador has said, is that whoever committed a crime in the United States should serve a sentence there. That is the U.S. Government's policy and it is difficult to fight against this, and we should not create a great amount of expectation about something that is impossible. The will of the two parties is necessary, and the Colombian party's will is not enough. The U.S. party's will is certainly essential and they have clearly stated that they are not interested in such an agreement. [end recording]

CNGSB Announces Suspension of Attacks

PA0108131891 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional
in Spanish 1210 GMT 1 Aug 91

[Text] Cucuta—The Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] announced today that it is suspending all terrorist attacks against the economic infrastructure of the country.

Speaking in the mountains to journalists from Norte de Santander Department, the top chief of the self-styled FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia], Manuel Marulanda Velez, announced that the guerrillas have adopted this decision on their own initiative. Marulanda Velez said that it is necessary to suspend, in

particular, the actions against the utility towers, bearing in mind the harm being done to the poverty-stricken communities of the country.

During the dialogue with the government in Caracas, the guerrillas proposed 1 July as the date for a possible cease-fire. However, as of that date, the guerrillas have unleashed a terrorist offensive that has cost the country approximately 290 billion pesos.

The Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline was also the target of the ELN [Army of National Liberation] attacks. ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] disclosed yesterday that—as a result of the attacks—it has been unable to produce nearly 2 million barrels of petroleum. The attacks against the utility towers seriously affected the country's economy, particularly the Atlantic coastal area, the Uraba area in Antioquia Department, and the Eastern Plains.

The CNGSB announcement that it is suspending attacks on the economic infrastructure of the country comes at a time when the government—despite being very pessimistic—reiterates that it will maintain a dialogue with the rebels. The government-guerrillas talks will resume in Caracas on 26 August.

Subversives Want Civilian Life

PA3107162091 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Pereira—For not sharing what they describe as the terrorist ideology of the high command of the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board, 52 rebels who belonged to the organization have expressed their firm decision to return to civilian life.

By means of a message delivered to Radio Cadena Nacional in Pereira, the 52 subversives said that the ideological criteria of Camilo Torres does not include the need to adversely affect the people's interests. For this reason, they will not continue as members of the group.

They said they want to return to civilian life, and to achieve this they want to hold talks with government spokesmen as soon as possible.

Army Learns of Guerrilla Orders on Attacks

PA2607165291 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Jul 91

[Text] All of the fronts of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, reportedly have orders to stop their actions against the country's oil and electricity infrastructure and to increase the attacks on policemen and soldiers. General Humberto Correa Castaneda, commander of the 1st Army Division, has announced that the FARC system of communications was intercepted in the last few hours, permitting the authorities to learn of [FARC commander] Manuel Marulanda Velez' instructions on the guerrilla actions.

In one of Marulanda Velez' conversations with commanders of several FARC fronts, he is heard ordering them to continue fighting until they receive new orders. The doors are open to continue firing because they have it in for us, the guerrilla leader added.

Meanwhile, journalist Jose Gomez of the "Caribe News-cast," who was kidnapped and subsequently freed by the guerrillas, spoke with Manuel Marulanda Velez and Manuel Perez, commanders of the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board. In the conversation, the subversive leaders said that the attacks are a way to make the wealthy feel the effects of the war.

The Guerrilla Coordinating Board has reportedly left its fronts free to decide whether they will suspend the violent actions in the country.

Guerrillas Resume Armed Actions in Some Places

PA0108003591

[Editorial Report] Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish on 24 July publishes an 800-word report on the recent attacks by the guerrillas. The report says "one officer and two soldiers of Bombona Battalion, 14th Infantry Brigade, Captain Armando Castro Carrillo and Privates Albert Grajales Uribe and Ruben Dario Restrepo Restrepo, were wounded in Segovia when a mine exploded in front of their vehicle." The report adds that "a camp of a French-Argentine consortium was attacked in Zaragoza on the lower Cauca region. The subversives set 43 vehicles and pieces of machinery on fire, all of them worth an estimated 12 billion pesos."

It goes on to say that "the Santander railroad resumed operations after a three-day stoppage because of the subversives' actions."

The report adds that "in Popayan, 25 members of the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board, CNGSB, surrendered to the authorities, saying that they disagreed with the orders they received to attack economic targets." Leader Alfonso Cano and his companions are expected to present to the CNGSB staff a report on the talks with the Colombian Government delegation in Caracas. The staff will decide whether they will resume the peace dialogue on 26 August.

The report then says that on "22 July, subversives dynamited the Puerto Salgar-Bogota gas pipeline, causing losses estimated at 35 million pesos. One guerrilla was killed and military materiel was recovered from the clash with rebels in Amara, near Zaragoza and Segovia, on 23 July."

Guerrillas Free Frenchmen Kidnapped in Jan

PA3007165291 Paris AFP in Spanish 1558 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Text] Bogota, 30 Jul (AFP)—Radio Caracol of Bogota today reported that French technicians Michel Michaud,

Marcel Chambard, and Pierre Tarasuig, who were kidnapped in mid-January by leftist guerrillas in Antioquia Department (northwest), were freed and are safe and sound.

According to the report, 55-year-old Michaud, 45-year-old Chambard, and 50-year-old Tarasuig were freed along the banks of the Tigui River, a tributary of the Nechi River in Zaragoza jurisdiction, northeastern Antioquia Department, where they had been kidnapped on 18 January.

The three French experts were working for the French-Argentine Spie-Capag consortium that is building a pipeline in the mountainous and jungle area known as Lower Magdalena, where several fronts of the Guevarist National Liberation Army (ELN) operate. The ELN is a member of the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board along with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

Dance Hall Massacre Leaves 15 Dead, 10 Wounded

PA2807143791 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Jul 91

[Report by Fernando Mosquera]

[Text] A total of 15 people were killed and 10 were wounded in a massacre that occurred at a Las Brisas dance hall located along the Jamundi-Cali highway. On the evening of 27 July, a group of gunmen stormed the dance hall and indiscriminately opened fire on the people. As Radio Cadena Nacional reported, the attack occurred between 2030 and 2040 on 27 July, when there were at least 100 people in the hall.

According to a report issued by the authorities and witnesses of the violent attack, several men wearing black overalls and pink wristbands broke into the establishment and, without a word, opened fire on the people who were enjoying their evening. It was said that the gunmen quietly approached the place and, after surrounding the recreation center, began shooting from different locations.

The authorities said that they cannot understand why there were not more deaths. This morning the number of victims totaled 15 and the number of wounded was 10. According to testimony given by several survivors of the massacre, at least 10 gunmen escaped in three vehicles. No details of the vehicles have been found yet, but it is believed that they were stolen, as a large number of car thefts have been reported in Cali.

The security agencies have begun intensive search operations to try and find the perpetrators of the massacre. It was later learned that the mass killing is a result of the war among the drug cartels, because scanty reports of the presence of several suspects from Medellin were received on 26 July.

Reportedly Aimed at Drug Capo

PA0108015791 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1741 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Bogota, 31 Jul (DPA)—The newspaper LA PRENSA of Bogota reported today that the gunmen who shot to death 18 [number as received] people at an entertainment center on 27 July were trying to kill alleged drug trafficker named Francisco Herrera, thought to be one of the top capos of the Cali Cartel.

The massacre was perpetrated by several heavily armed masked men who went to the resort near Cali. The bursts from the automatic weapons killed 18 people and seriously wounded 11 others.

According to LA PRENSA, the gunmen, apparently linked to the Medellin Cartel, were trying to kill Herrera, who was with several friends at the entertainment center. Citing witnesses, the paper said that a few minutes before the massacre, one man arrived and whispered something in Herrera's ear. Herrera then immediately left.

The authorities investigating the massacre have not ruled out the possibility that the Medellin Cartel, an avowed enemy of the Cali Cartel, masterminded the bloody attack. The Medellin mafia apparently tried to kill Herrera in September 1990, when several armed men arrived at a hacienda near Cali and killed 19 people who were playing soccer. At the time, according to unconfirmed reports, Herrera went into hiding and later, with his face covered, was allegedly assisted by the police in leaving his hiding place.

The massacre on 27 July might be a reactivation of the "war" that has been waged by the Medellin and Cali mafias for several years in an effort to control cocaine shipments to the United States and European markets.

Most of the confrontations have come in the form of massacres and bombings of property owned by the gang leaders.

According to several reports, the Medellin Cartel, formerly the world's largest drug trafficking ring, was virtually wiped out as its top ring leaders were killed or imprisoned. Some of the cartel members were gunned down in police operations and some top leaders, including brothers Pablo and Roberto Escobar and brothers Jorge Luis, Fabio, and Juan David Ochoa, surrendered to the authorities in order to take advantage of several beneficial governmental decrees.

The governmental measures stipulate reduced sentences and a fair trial for the drug traffickers and terrorists who surrender, confess to at least one crime, and cooperate with the judges.

The break up of the Medellin Cartel has apparently left the Cali Cartel as the most powerful drug trafficking ring, according to DEA [US Drug Enforcement Administration].

This week, a U.S. court gave Henry Orejuela, accused of being one of the Cali Cartel leaders, a life sentence. Other alleged capos, such as Jose Santacruz and brothers Gilberto and Miguel Rodriguez, are still at large and apparently remain linked to drug trafficking activities.

Escobar's Cousin Urquijo Surrenders, Imprisoned

PA3007195091 Bogota Inravision Television
Cadena 1 in Spanish 1744 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Text] Antioquia—Drug traffickers of the so-called Medellin Cartel have continued to surrender to the authorities. The most recent example is Jorge Enrique Urquijo Gaviria, who turned himself in to Marta Luz Hurtado, magistrate of the Antioquia criminal investigation court in Medellin, at noon today. She immediately took Urquijo to the Envigado prison, where the top Medellin Cartel kingpins are being held and where Father Rafael Garcia Herreros was making a personal visit. Urquijo Gaviria is a cousin to Pablo Escobar Gaviria and brother-in-law to Roberto Escobar, aka El Osito, according to the authorities.

The number of people whose extradition had been requested and who sought refuge in the government decrees establishing a penalty reduction for those who voluntarily surrender has reached 13. Not one of the persons whose extradition has been requested had surrendered for the past 26 days as the result of the murder of three men allegedly planning to take advantage of the government decrees.

Carlos Diaz Bedoya, aka La Garra; Jose Ospina Montoya, aka El Gordo; John Jairo Martinez, aka Sicopor; and Alfonso Leon Puerta Munoz, aka Angelito, turned themselves in on 4 June.

EPL Commander Gutierrez Joins M-19 Alliance

PA3007142391 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional
in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota—Former Popular Liberation Army, EPL, Commander Bernardo Gutierrez officially announced yesterday that he no longer belongs to the political organization that was formed when the EPL rebel group demobilized. He said he now belongs to the M-19 [19 April Movement] democratic alliance.

The EPL directorate has appointed a new political commission to take over the responsibilities previously held by Bernardo Gutierrez. The commission is formed by Dario Mejia, Fred Cifuentes, Julio Carrascal, and Anibal Palacios, among others. The EPL commission members stated that they were against the organization's dissolution and would be meeting at 1100 today to determine the EPL's future.

Another EPL Leader Joins

PA3107182691 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional
in Spanish 1216 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota—Jaime Fajardo Landaeta, former Constituent Assembly member and ousted leader of Hope, Peace, and Liberty [members of the Popular Liberation Army, EPL, who have laid down their weapons], resigned from this organization and announced he was unconditionally joining the 19 April Movement Democratic Alliance [M-19].

Fajardo said the EPL's decision is a reflection of the internal divisions within that organization since the beginning of the peace process.

It is illogical for me to remain in a group with no political options that is taking actions against the plans for reincorporation and is generating false expectations, the former leader said to Radio Cadena Nacional.

M-19 Alliance Leader Criticizes Rebel Offensive

PA3107025491 Hamburg DPA in Spanish
2149 GMT 30 Jul 91

[Text] Bogota, 30 Jul (DPA)—Antonio Navarro Wolff, leader of the leftist 19 April Movement Democratic Alliance (AD/M-19), said today that the terrorist offensive launched in Colombia by the guerrilla groups involved in a peace process with the government is a "serious error of perception," because what they gain at the negotiating table, they lose in the eyes of the public.

Navarro Wolff told DPA that the rebel organizations that form the Simon Bolivar Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB) "are doing things backward" by destroying electricity pylons and petroleum installations, which have been the target of terrorist attacks.

The government of President Cesar Gaviria and the CNGSB began peace talks in Caracas on 3 Jun., but there is as of yet no agreement on the declaration of a cease-fire and a halt to hostilities, the first point in a 10-point agenda agreed upon by the negotiators.

"The Colombian guerrillas have to think about what they are doing, because while they gain an inch at the dialogue table, they lose miles in the eyes of the public," Navarro Wolff warned.

The terrorist actions intensified one month ago, at the end of the second round of talks in the Venezuelan capital, and they have led to huge protests in various regions of the country.

It has been estimated that the economic losses so far this year from the blowing up of petroleum facilities might amount to \$80 million.

For the political leader, who carried out the former M-19's disarmament and return to lawful life, the groups in the CNGSB have "political opportunities" opened to

them in Colombia, although he predicted that the peace talks will not take months but years.

The CNGSB has indicated that its process of reconciliation with the government "is different" from that of the four groups that have signed definite peace agreements, because it has not been militarily defeated.

In addition to the M-19, the majority faction of the Maoist Popular Liberation Army (EPL), the Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT), and the pro-Indian Quintin Lame (QL) movement have successfully signed peace agreements with the government to join lawful life as political organizations.

Those former rebel groups had had approximately 3,000 members, while more than 8,000 members currently form the Marxist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the pro-Cuban Army of National Liberation (ELN), and the EPL dissident faction which is part of the CNGSB.

Navarro Wolff, who, since he abandoned the armed struggle in March 1990, has been the health minister and a member of the constituent assembly, said that the CNGSB groups should use the political opportunities Colombia currently offers.

The emergence of the AD/M-19, which in a few months has become the country's most important leftist movement, broke the traditional control that the liberal and conservative parties had exerted over Colombian politics during the past 150 years.

Although the peace talks are scheduled to resume in Caracas on 26 August, various political and social sectors are skeptical that the CNGSB will disarm to become an political party.

Peasant Self-Defense Leader Interviewed

PA0108043391 Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish
24 Jul 91 pp 1, 11

[Interview with Ariel Otero of the Peasant Self-Defense Organization by special correspondent Enrique Rivas G. in Puerto Boyaca; date not given]

[Text] Following the death of Henry de Jesus Perez, who was the leader of the Peasant Self-Defense groups, the name of a man who will probably lead this organization in Magdalena Medio has come to light. He is Ariel Otero.

Otero has spoken about the origin and the future of this organization, which has been declared illegal by the government but that nevertheless continues operating in the Magdalena Medio region.

[Rivas] What is the origin of the Self-Defense Organization?

[Otero] Self-Defense arose as a rebellion against the foreign-like political indoctrination work that FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] was doing

on the peasants. Our organization has ideological connotations because it presents its own alternatives to the so-called redemptive alternatives that Marxism-Leninism used to present to them.

[Rivas] Political movements or groups have an ideological basis. How would you characterize the Self-Defense?

[Otero] Politically speaking, we are, essentially, nationalists and favor party pluralism. We are united, basically, by the concept of nationality, the state, the system, and Colombia's traditional culture, which must be defended from revolutionary aggression. However, the people who form part of this movement participate in many other political groups—in liberal and conservative groups, in the Revolutionary Independent Workers Movement, and in other alliances.

[Rivas] In what year were the self-defense groups created?

[Otero] In Magdalena Medio they were created, as such, in 1980.

[Rivas] How was the beginning?

[Otero] Difficult, like every beginning. The arrangements were very rudimentary. The Self-Defense Organization emerged as a result of the close cooperation that was established between the civilian population and the Armed Forces. The first role the organization played was that of an intelligence network that passed information to the Armed Forces to make them more effective.

[Rivas] The Self-Defense Organization has been accused of committing crimes, such as the Uraba massacre. What do you have to say to this?

[Otero] The people who have been accused of engaging in that kind of activity, including the late Commander Perez, have spoken clearly on this, noting that we had no properties in Uraba, that the organization has not been in Uraba. The organization has well-set boundaries. Its people know where they are to operate and what their guidelines are.

[Rivas] Then why do you get linked to this situation?

[Otero] The political influence of the subversive groups was, unfortunately, strong, as Henry Perez used to say. They were able to falsely accuse people of committing crimes. Many innocent people were accused of committing crimes, but investigations produced no evidence to back the charges.

[Rivas] How is the organization right now? How does it function? How is it financed?

[Otero] The Self-Defense Organization is similar to a guerrilla organization. It has a staff and commanders; fronts and front commanders; and an intelligence organization at the rural level. Financing the organization has not been a matter of concern because it is composed of people from the region so there is no extra cost.

[Rivas] How many fronts does your organization have?

[Otero] Right now there are approximately 12 fronts operating in Magdalena Medio.

[Rivas] It has been said that your group advises peasants from other regions. How true is this? Is this an organization trying to expand to a national level?

[Otero] Look: We cannot carry out a project like the one we are implementing in Magdalena Medio in any other region. The word advice has many connotations. If someone asks us how this works, and how we defeated the guerrillas, we really have no reason for not telling. We can explain: look, this functions this way and the organization has this and that structure. However, we do not interfere in somebody else's private affairs.

The Self-Defense Organization does well in those places where it finds a social base. Defense processes cannot be exported anywhere because they have to be generated by the people, by the peasant rank and file. No one can fight somebody else's war.

[Rivas] Who has come here seeking self-defense advice?

[Otero] We receive visits from persons from all parts of the country. Some people strongly identify themselves with the pacification processes we have here. Besides, we always tell them that the war here was not won when all the guerrillas left the area but when social projects were adopted to leave the guerrillas without social support. We say this to all the people in the country.

[Rivas] What is your position with regard to the government's peace proposals?

[Otero] We are a circumstantial organization. The moment that the factors that generate a violence that affects us directly disappear, the Self-Defense Organization will lose its significance as an armed movement and it will surrender its weapons and all the people will return to their normal activities. However, the country's situation is forcing us to maintain a defensive attitude. We cannot allow a repeat of massacres such as that of last Saturday.

[Rivas] What is the relationship between the death of Colonel Bohorquez, that of Gonzalo de Jesus Perez, and that of Perez' son Henry?

[Otero] The only relation is that all three of them are dead. I do not want to speculate on what happened to Col. Bohorquez. What happened to Gonzalo Perez was accidental. It coincided with the attack on Henry but the two are completely different matters.

Army Kills 7 Rebels, Wounds 65 in Antioquia

PA2607180791 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional
in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Jul 91

[Text] The Colombian Army killed seven subversives, wounded 65, and captured 60 during new military operations in Antioquia Department this past week. General

Ramon Eduardo Nieve Suscategui, commander of the 2d Mobile Brigade, has confirmed to this station the desertion of 16 members of the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and the ELN [Army of National Liberation] during operations between the Cauca and Nechi rivers in northwestern Antioquia Department. The Army dismantled a guerrilla communications center and confiscated weapons, including two antiaircraft machineguns, 48 rifles, 26 handguns, 35 homemade bombs, and 10,000 rounds of various calibers.

According to the general, the Army also destroyed 2,000 hectares of coca plants and six cocaine processing laboratories.

Weapons Cache Found

PA0108003291 Bogota Inravision Television
Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Jul 91

[Text] The Army has discovered a large CNGSB [Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board] weapons' cache in northeastern Antioquia.

During the past week the Army's No. 2 Mobile Brigade, deployed in Cauca, confiscated bombs, grenades, machine guns, mortars, and an array of war and depot material belonging to the Army of National Liberation and FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] forces that operate in lower Cauca, Antioquia. During the operation seven rebels died, 65 were wounded, and 60 captured.

[Begin recording General Humberto Correa, 1st Division commander] A large amount of war material was seized; some of it had been abandoned, indicating desertion, an attitude that the rebel groups have assumed in light of the Army's surprise attacks. [end recording]

Coca leave plantations and kitchens for cooking coca paste, a clear link between the rebels and drug trafficking, were also uncovered during the operation.

Last night, a conversation of Manuel Marulanda Velez, alias Tiro Fijo, was intercepted. He was heard to say that the military attacks against his rank and file would be avenged in the same fashion by the FARC.

Currently, the No. 2 Mobile Brigade's military operations continue in the area between the Cauca and Nechi rivers. During this so-called Apollo Operation, a FARC communication center that linked the nation's whole northern sector was also uncovered.

Arsenal Located in Medellin

PA0108003491 Bogota Inravision Television
Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Colombian police have confiscated an arsenal in the Laureles neighborhood in the western part of Medellin, Antioquia Department. Authorities have not specified whether the weapons belong to the guerrillas or the drug cartels.

The large amount of sophisticated weapons confiscated by the police include missiles, revolvers, ammunition clips, and rifles. Correspondent Laiz Vargas has the details.

[Begin recording] [Vargas] This is one of the largest arsenals ever confiscated in the country, not only because of the amount, but because of the quality. The arsenal includes anti-aircraft missiles, rockets, carbines, machine guns, shotguns, telescopic sights, silencers, 1,000 clips for ammunition of various calibers, 10,000 cartridges, military uniforms, hoods, and other war materiel.

The arsenal was discovered in a house in the Laureles neighborhood, a residential area in the western part of the city. Personnel from the metropolitan police arrived there early this morning and found the house empty, as apparently it was only used as an arms cache.

The weapons were found in an underground room accessible through a tunnel hidden under a closet. The investigation that led to this successful operation began with anonymous calls reporting strange movements in the area. According to the metropolitan police, this is undoubtedly a harsh blow against the owners of the arsenal. Let us listen to Colonel Villamil.

[Villamil] This is one of the largest arms caches ever confiscated in the country. As you can see, it includes mostly long-range weapons like rockets; anti-aircraft missiles; U.S., Soviet, and Austrian material; and many ammunition clips, more than 1,000 clips of various calibers for different types of weapons.

[Vargas] According to the metropolitan police, only drug traffickers or guerrilla groups would use these weapons. [end recording]

Paraguay

Military Aeronautics Commander Speech Reported

PY2807204291 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish
27 Jul 91 p 9

[Speech by Military Aeronautics Commander General Dionisio Cabello during the inauguration ceremony attended by President Andres Rodriguez in Luque on 26 July]

[Text] Today we commemorate the anniversary of the granting of the "Chaco Cross" military courage medal to military aviation on 26 July 1939.

This historic event marks the country's recognition of the Chaco War pilots' dedication and courage. We pay homage to their patriotism with admiration and respect. Our history is full of examples of our Armed Forces' devotion to the flag. The military institution is rooted in the Paraguayan people's soul, and it is an important factor in the defense of the basic values of our democratic civilization.

Any effort to conspire against the security organizations will weaken one of the essential pillars of the transition, which still needs to be protected. Here we share [former Uruguayan President] Julio Maria Sanguinetti's thought, which in Paraguay is unquestionable: "Democracy cannot be achieved by fighting the military, but by working with them." We can add that "in Paraguay democracy was born with the military, under General Andres Rodriguez."

Here we have more proof of the military's total identification with our people's aspirations. The high point of this effort is the opening of the country to an era of freedom and respect for essential human rights unprecedented in the political life of the country from the days of our independence to the early morning hours of San Blas day [2 February 1989 coup].

It is true that the event is more important than those who participated in it. But it is also true that by supporting its main leader we are encouraging the virtue of serving basic democratic values.

Current threats do not have traditional characteristics.

Respect for our borders is today guaranteed by the prevailing fraternal climate among our neighboring peoples, who are determined to conquer their national objectives through integration. But this does not mean that our sovereignty will not be exposed to eventual interference by foreign interests.

Terrorism, narcoterrorism, drug production and trafficking, the use of violence as a political instrument, and guerrilla warfare as a means to redeem social goals are not the products of our imagination. These scourges affect many countries in need of social peace and order. In the face of these new forms of threats, it is essential to maintain the dissuasive capacity of military power in order to ensure social and economic goals and the people's well-being within a framework of democracy and strict respect for the law.

For this purpose, the Military Aeronautics has acquired the best equipment that human intelligence can conceive, and it is highly advanced in technological and scientific development. The strengthening of the institution is in the national interest. It requires an advanced conception of development and an agile and dynamic structure operating in cooperation with all other expressions of national power to really fulfill its constitutional functions.

Guarding our sovereignty has permanent characteristics. It requires a continuous and preventive control of our air space and airports, and it demands that we make the best possible use of our means within the legal framework in order to achieve integration and a rational use of resources.

Our positive thinking applied to concrete and well-defined programs, which are the products of our dedication, will be the source that will nourish our institutional progress.

In the Air Force today, we think that the lack of ambition to surpass the achieved goals is tantamount to going backward.

We will advance with firm steps and new ideas, looking for new horizons, without letting problems that are usual in any act of progress scare us. The truth of hard work will be victorious, and success will not pass by without favoring those who get stronger by defeating difficulties.

A good professional performance is based on an officers' capacity to act and train.

To face this reality, and thanks to the support of our commanders, we were able to implement courses in air tactics, high-level training, instructors training, and training for the Air Force command and general staff. These courses will be implemented in accordance with General Order 30 of the commander in chief. The constructive application of what we have learned is what will make our different professional goals feasible.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen.

This building we are inaugurating today has more meaning than its mere value. It is testimony to our efforts to eradicate neglect and negligence. It is an incentive for those who do not want to lose the opportunity to contribute to the integral recovery of the Air Force. The meaning of solidarity is written on its walls. The encouragement and support of our commander in chief, the 1st Cavalry Division commander, and Mr. Nicolas Bo—whose father was our first director in 1923—and Mr. Alfonso Ruiz have added to the efforts of my subordinates and all our friends who believe in the ideal of progress to make this achievement possible. We thank them.

We also thank our wives for their cooperation in enlarging and remodeling the Loreto Virgen School.

Sir: Your presence here is far more important than a mere formality because of your solidarity with Air Force soldiers.

We reiterate on this occasion the Air Force's respect and admiration for, and our total solidarity with, your patriotic government efforts. History reserves you a seat of honor for your participation in the recovery of our national dignity.

Your faith in the fatherland's highest destiny encourages us to continue working with loyalty, inspired by your conduct. We are ready to carry out your orders with the conviction and courage of all Paraguayan soldiers.

Officials Analyze Armed Forces Reorganization

PY3007165291 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish
30 Jul 91 p 2

[Text] The Special Armed Forces Commission [SAFC], which has been created to promote civilian-military dialogue, met yesterday with members of the Senate. The SAFC members briefed the senators on the bill to reorganize the Armed Forces.

The meeting was held at the residence of General Anibal Rejis Romero. The military men submitted to the senators a bill that seeks to amend Law 832 on the Armed Forces' organization. This was the main issue analyzed during the meeting.

The meeting lasted more than three hours. Generals Lino Oviedo, Humberto Garcete, Eumelio Bernal, and Emilio Balbuena, and 16 senators attended the meeting. Vice Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit (who heads the SAFC) did not attend the meeting.

The reorganization of the Armed Forces foresees the creation of the position of Army commander. Gen. Garcete later explained that, unlike the Navy and the Air Force, the Army does not have the position of commander. He said: "We are planning to place the Army under a single command," adding that this proposal does not foresee increasing the number of generals or colonels, or of increasing the defense budget.

The reorganization project also foresees the creation of a national police force to replacing the regional government delegations. It has been reported that the generals and senators agreed on this proposal.

Garcete also said that the generals who comprise the SAFC are drafting the bill that will be submitted to Congress in the next few days. The SAFC will meet today with church representative, and tomorrow with another group of senators.

Yesterday's meeting was attended by congressmen from the various political parties, including Fernando Vera, Waldino Lovera, Pedro Hugo Pena, Marina Aquino de Ortiz, Julio R. Elizeche, Carlos Romero Pereira, Alcibades Fernandez, Juan Carlos Zaldivar, Rodrigo Campos Cervera, Abraham Esteche, Fulgencio Miranda, Artemio Vera, Gustavo Diaz de Vivar, Mario Mallorquin, Juan V. Caballero, and Fulgencio Aldana. Two senators who were scheduled to attend the meeting were absent.

Government Launches Broad National Dialogue

PY2907160891 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish
28 Jul 91 p 3

[Text] Asked about the role of the Armed Forces, President Andres Rodriguez yesterday said: "There should not be a trilogy [referring to ex-President Stroessner's idea of Armed Forces, party, and government as one entity]. This chapter is now a part of our history. The role of the Armed Forces is to guarantee the consolidation of democracy in our country." He asserted that the government's sole objective is to ensure the welfare of the entire Paraguayan people, without exceptions.

Brigade General Regis Anibal Romero, chief of the Military Household, has reported that the coordination of all sectors of the Paraguayan society, without discriminations, is entrusted to a Work and Negotiation Team [Equipo de Trabajo y Negociacion], which comprises active-service generals and admirals. The Work and

Negotiation Team, which is not subordinate to any political or party influence, will seek solutions to national problems through a broad, nationwide dialogue.

Gen. Romero explained that the team was established on orders of President Rodriguez. He said that the president "wants full accord among all Paraguayans and wants them to work together, without any discriminations, to solve the problems that really interest the country."

Navy Commander Rear Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit is the president of the Work and Negotiation Team and Brigade General Emilio Osvaldo Balbuena, commander of the Military Training Institutes Command—CIME, is the secretary. The other members of the team are: Division General Eumelio Bernal, Armed Forces chief of general staff; Division General Ramon Humberto Garcete, commander of the 1st Army Corps; Brigade General Dionisio Cabello Amarilla, Paraguayan Air Force commander; and Brigade General Lino Cesar Oviedo, commander of the 1st Cavalry Division. The team is coordinated by Gen. Romero and Chief of Civilian Household Raul Sapena.

Gen. Romero said that the team will ask representatives of all sectors of the Paraguayan society to begin the process of civilian-military interaction, "thus ending the traditional distrust through a frank, responsible, respectful, earnest, and honest dialogue. The team must ensure the welfare of all Paraguayans and allow the government to impart social justice, within its possibilities, to all."

Romero added that the team began by meeting with the ruling-party and opposition congressmen at his home last week. This week, the team will meet with the Paraguayan Episcopal Conference members. It will successively meet with all sectors of Paraguayan society. Asked why the meetings were held at his home, Romero answered: "Because my home is neutral territory. We do not want the meetings to be held at military units or at political parties headquarters."

"Now is the moment to unite our efforts to discuss major national issues, without wasting time discussing minor issues that are of interest only to some sectors of our society or to the political parties. We must overcome all meanness and discard our egotism if we are to work together for the benefit of the country," he said.

He emphasized: "Our greatest wish is to unite all Paraguayans. These meetings have no political or electoral objectives. We must place national interests above political interests."

First 'Free' Communist Party Congress Begins

PY2607153091 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish
26 Jul 91 p 6

[Text] The Fourth Paraguayan Communist Party [PCP] Congress will begin deliberating today. The meeting that will be attended by delegates from the capital and the

interior will end on 28 July. PCP leaders announced that delegates from the Uruguayan, Argentine, and Brazilian Communist Parties also will be present during the debates. The PCP Congress will be held at the People's House—the Febrerista Revolutionary Party headquarters—on Manduvira and 14 de Mayo Streets and will begin at 1930.

The congress' agenda includes an analysis of the national and international political situation and the election of PCP Central Committee executives.

PCP Secretary General Ananias Maidana pointed out: "The Fourth PCP Congress will be the first in 63 years that will be totally free and sovereign because the previous congresses had to be held in hiding."

Maidana added that "the party did not grow much because it has just left the underground. Maidana pointed out that the PCP could not operate during the previous regime because it was persecuted by the dictatorship and that as a consequence it lost its best cadres and could not advance." [quote marks as published]

PCP leader Luis Casabianca deplored the Foreign Ministry's refusal to grant visas to the delegates from the Soviet Union, the PRC, and Cuba, who were also invited to attend. According to Casabianca, the Foreign Ministry said: "It was impossible for the time being to grant visas to the communist delegates from those countries."

Asked about the issue by an Asuncion radio station, the foreign minister said, however, "delegates from those countries have probably had some problem with their documents at the Paraguayan Embassy in Rio de Janeiro or Buenos Aires."

Casabianca said: "It is inconsistent for the government to preach an opening toward the socialist bloc and at the same time deny visas to the delegates of the USSR, the PRC, and Cuba."

Japan Donates \$6.8 Million for Agriculture

PY2707125491 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish
26 Jul 91 p 12

[Summary] Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken and Japanese Ambassador Shunji Maruyama signed two agreements this morning in which Japan grants a nonreimbursable credit of nearly 8.9 billion guaranies (921 million yen) [almost \$6.8 million] to finance La Colmena Integrated Equipping Project and an increase in national agriculture production through the Paraguay Oriental Region Agriculture Development Program.

Peru

Shining Path Imposes Strike Against Policies

Police Killed in Attack

PA2707213091 Paris AFP in Spanish 2314 GMT
26 Jul 91

[Text] Lima, 26 Jul (AFP)—Peruvian police have reported that three policemen and one terrorist were killed and three other policemen and a civilian woman were seriously wounded in Lima today when a rebel commando attacked a patrol car.

Approximately eight rebels staged a surprise attack with gunfire and explosives directed at a police patrol car that was making its rounds in the San Juan de Miraflores neighborhood.

The wounded policemen and the woman were taken to a hospital in the area and are in serious condition. According to preliminary reports, among the dead is a noncommissioned officer.

Meanwhile, the Armed Forces have adopted strict security measures, particularly in Huancayo, Junin, Centroandina City, and Ayacucho, in the southeastern Andean region, where the Shining Path has called for a 72-hour "armed strike" against President Alberto Fujimori's policies which is intended to hamper the national day, a police spokesman reported.

It has been reported that the city of Huancayo, 250 km east of Lima, is being rigorously patrolled by land and air, supported by helicopter gunships, while the local political military command has issued a communique urging the community to reject the "attempted and unacceptable strike."

Nevertheless, the market place and some business sectors were closed and there was no urban and interprovincial transportation.

With regard to the power structures that were sabotaged this week, the authorities have reported that almost 8 million residents in Lima and several southern and northern cities are prepared to celebrate the national day at "half-light" as a result of the blowing up of four utility towers on 24 July. The towers were blown up "despite the fact that they were mined [a pesar de que estaban minadas]."

Energy and Mines Minister Fernando Sanchez has admitted that the incident has reduced by 75 percent the power supply in the Peruvian capital.

After pointing out that the repair of each utility tower would cost approximately \$50,000, the minister said that the considerable losses due to the complete shutdown of factories, businesses, and other economic sectors must also be taken into consideration.

Due to the lack of power, seditious groups once again took advantage of the situation and set fire to a business district in the capital neighborhood of Los Olivos by detonating explosive devices in a Barranco municipal office while they staged other attacks against urban buses during which a terrorist died.

In Huancayo, repeating station installations of Radio Programas were destroyed by dynamite charges on 25 July while soldiers killed two persons they had confused for rebels.

Citizens Killed, Wounded

PA2807003091 Paris AFP in Spanish 1924 GMT
27 Jul 91

[Text] Lima, 27 Jul (AFP)—Peruvian authorities today confirmed that at least 14 people were killed and many were wounded in various actions unleashed by subversives over the past few hours to hamper celebration of the 28 July independence day festivities.

A 72-hour "armed strike" imposed by the Shining Path (S-L), beginning yesterday with death threats in five important cities in the southeastern Andean region, has resulted in the death of five people, the wounding of several others, the closing of businesses, and serious limitations on urban and interprovincial transportation.

At least three members of a family were killed by suspected S-L members on 26 July in Cerro de Pasco, Pasco Department, 250 km east of Lima. Fearful of the strike, merchants in Cerro de Pasco did not open their businesses and transporters did not drive their vehicles after they received death threats.

After forcing the passengers out, two buses traveling from Cerro de Pasco to Lima were set on fire by S-L groups on 26 July because they defied the order to strike.

In Huancayo, Junin Department, bordering Pasco, insurgents left the city without electricity for several hours. They took advantage of the dark to set off about 20 explosive devices, damaging a gasoline station, two businesses, and several homes. No casualties were reported.

The "armed strike" which was imposed in Huancayo yesterday and continued today, has limited public services and transportation, despite the strict security measures adopted by the zone's political and military command, which ordered increased and permanent patrolling of streets with the support of helicopter gunships.

In Ayacucho, in the southeastern Andes and bastion of the "armed struggle," where electricity service has been cut because of the blowing up of pylons, people decided to stay home and businesses have not opened because of the constant threats.

The town remained partially paralyzed today because of the lack of transportation, while the police are patrolling the streets of Ayacucho and nearby towns.

In Tocco, Ayacucho Department, four members of a peasant defense patrol were shot dead on 26 July by an S-L column that intercepted a truck in which they were traveling along the jungle road near the Apurimac river. The police said that the S-L members blew up the vehicle for not honoring the strike.

Police sources have also reported that one person was killed and two were wounded in a terrorist attack on an office of the Agriculture Ministry in Puno, 1,300 km southeast of Lima. The "armed strike" called by S-L also extended to Puno, where commercial activity was also limited.

A policeman and two subversives were killed in a clash in the countryside of Huacho, 130 km north of Lima.

To this wave of violence, on the eve of the first anniversary of the government of President Alberto Fujimori, is added the death today of four policemen—including a captain—a subversive, and a woman, and the wounding of two other policemen and five civilians in a subversive ambush in Lima's San Juan de Miraflores district, a communique from military authorities reported.

In remarks to the local press, Lima Archbishop Augusto Vargas Alzamora called for "moving from words to action and showing more strength and determination to face subversive forces."

He indicated that there is too much theorizing about the criminal subversion that blocks the peace everyone wants, and added that "it is time to take more action to move the country from the prostration in which it finds itself."

The insurgent action unleashed by S-L in Ayacucho 11 years ago continues to grow uncontrollably and, according to official statistics, has already resulted in more than 23,000 deaths and more than \$18 billion worth of economic damage.

State of Emergency Extended

PA0108044691 Lima Global de Television
Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Aug 91

[Text] The government has extended the state of emergency in Lima and Callao departments because the subversive activities that motivated this measure continue and it is necessary to adopt measures to reestablish and safeguard public order.

While this emergency measure is in effect, constitutional guarantees having to do with the inviolability of home privacy, the right to hold peaceful meetings without arms, the right to move throughout the country freely, and the right not to be arrested unless served with a

written warrant from a judge or unless surprised by an authority while flagrantly committing a crime, will be suspended.

Japanese To Be Withdrawn

PA3107230491 Paris AFP in Spanish 0814 GMT
31 Jul 91

[Text] Lima, 30 Jul (AFP)—Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori today announced that Japanese technicians participating in cooperation programs in Peru "will be temporarily withdrawn from rural areas" to protect them from possible attacks by Shining Path guerrillas.

Nevertheless, the president explained that "in no way does this withdrawal mean the suspension of Japanese cooperation with Peru," adding that relations between the two countries continue unchanged.

Fujimori stated that the decision was made by common agreement between the Tokyo and Lima governments after the 12 July attack in which three Japanese engineers were killed by Shining Path members in Huaral, 60 km north of Lima.

The president did not specify how long the Japanese technicians' withdrawal from rural areas will last. It is estimated there are 130 Japanese citizens working as technicians and volunteers in Peru.

"We want to provide them with security in view of the situation of insecurity caused by terrorism," Fujimori said, indicating that the cooperation with his country will be channeled through other means.

Japanese Farmer Murdered

OW2607095191 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 25 Jul 91

[Excerpts] On 23 July in Peru—where a series of terrorist attacks on Japanese or Japanese-Peruvians have taken place—a Japanese-Peruvian was killed by a group believed to be leftist guerrillas in suburban Lima, the capital city, where public security is believed to be in a better condition. This has once again created extensive unrest in the Japanese and Japanese-Peruvian community in Peru.

According to police authorities in Lima, the capital city of Peru, the murdered man was Manuel Inamine, a 58-year-old Japanese-Peruvian. As Mr. Inamine was leaving the suburban poultry farm of which he had been put in charge, by car for Lima at about 1830 in the afternoon on 23 July, that is about 0430 early morning Japan time, he was attacked by a group of three people driving in a small truck. Mr. Inamine was shot in the head, and his wife, Elena, who was riding with him, was seriously injured.

With regard to the murder group, the local police authorities believe that the crime may most possibly have been committed by the ultra-leftist guerrilla group, the Sendero Luminoso or the Shining Path. The group is also

suspected of killing three Japanese agricultural technicians of the JICA, Japan International Cooperation Agency, on 12 July.

[Ota] Shortly after Mr. Manuel Shimabukuro Inamine, the murdered man, and his wife Elena left the poultry farm that Mr. Inamine runs, in the late afternoon of 23 July, somebody attacked them. Mr. Inamine was shot twice in the head and died on the spot, and his wife, Elena, was also injured.

According to the local police, Mr. Inamine had received several threatening telephone calls in the last few weeks. The criminal group that attacked the Inamines has not yet been specified.

However, judging from the circumstantial evidence, such as the fact that Mr. Inamine was attacked and immediately shot to death, the police believe that it is quite possible that the crime was committed by the same guerrilla group, Sendero Luminoso or the Shining Path, which is held responsible for murdering Japanese technicians in Huaral.

Since a series of guerrilla attacks on Japanese and Japanese-Peruvians have taken place, members of the Japanese community in Peru are increasingly fearful of the possibility that the guerrillas will now concentrate their attacks on local Japanese because the first anniversary of the Fujimori administration falls on 28 July, and because President Fujimori is of Japanese descent. Some Japanese company employees in Peru have already begun sending their family members back to Japan. Under such circumstances, the situation has deteriorated because of this attack, and the latest crime has provoked greater concern and fear among the members of the Japanese community in Peru. [passage omitted]

Concerning the current incident, Misoji Sakamoto, chief cabinet secretary, stated at a press conference held this afternoon that it still remains uncertain whether the crime is connected with political terrorism or was just a robbery. He pointed out that three Japanese agricultural technicians were murdered by terrorists recently in a case of political terrorism. In this connection, while advising the local Japanese Embassy and Japanese people in Peru to take measures for self-defense, he said he had also asked President Fujimori and other concerned officials to try to prevent any more crimes of this kind. Mr. Sakamoto reiterated the need to take measures to protect the Japanese in Peru, and stated his intention to take efficient measures to protect the Japanese there.

Family Pays Ransom for Businessman's Release

PA0108031491 Paris AFP in Spanish 2351 GMT
31 Jul 91

[Text] Lima, 31 Jul (AFP)—The police announced on 31 July in Lima that Cesar Fukuda, a Peruvian businessman of Japanese descent, was released on 29 July by criminals who abducted him on 16 July after his family paid a ransom of approximately \$500,000.

Fukuda, who had a bullet wound in his left arm, was released on 29 July after 13 days in captivity, said Colonel Arturo Rodriguez of the National Police antikidnapping command.

The kidnappers left Fukuda near the Huaral stadium, approximately 60 km north of the prosperous "Nikkei" colony farming area, where on 12 July three Japanese members of the JICA (Japanese International Cooperation Agency) were murdered by terrorists. Fukuda is currently in Lima with his family.

The kidnappers are common criminals, said Col. Rodriguez, and not terrorists from the MRTA (Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement) as early reports indicated. There were 12 of them, and at least eight have been identified, he said.

Col. Rodriguez also said that the kidnappers at first demanded a ransom of \$10 million, but the family of the 48-year-old businessman—owner of bird and hog raising businesses—managed to reduce the ransom to \$500,000.

Other police sources said that the triple murder of the JICA members was perpetrated by Shining Path, a terrorist organization that is leveling death threats against the large Japanese colony in Huaral as a means of sabotaging the aid that Japan is giving President Alberto Fujimori's government.

Roundup of Terrorist Activities on 20 Jul

PY2807213691

[Editorial Report] Following are reports on terrorist activities in Peru compiled from Peruvian papers published on 20 July. Publication information is given in parentheses after each item.

The National Police arrested eight extremists of the self-styled Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement in Huacho on 19 July. Police did not release the identity of the individuals but a reliable source affirmed that they were all terrorists. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Jul 91 p A 11)

A group of Shining Path terrorists murdered eight peasants in several communities in Cajabamba Province, 123 km from Cajamarca, between 16 July and 18 July. The terrorists also dynamited facilities of the Huayunga Hydroelectric Power Plant and the Crisnejas microregion, located at 518 Jiron Arias. The terrorists attacked in the communities of Corral Pampa, Quiyispampa, Chuquibamba, Amacucho, and Santa Rita and the dead included Victoriano Mora Quispe, Felipe Sandoval, Orlando Pajares Ramirez, Baca Seminario, Mejia Tocto and his pregnant wife, and Anastacio Alvarez. The Shining Path already has killed 37 people in Cajabamba Province so far this year. (Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Jul 91 p 25)

Shining Path militants on 19 July seized three radio stations in Huancayo to broadcast a call for "an armed strike." The stations were Radio Huancayo, Radio

Andina, and the central market's internal radio. Another Shining Path group attacked San Martin de Porras in el Tambo District and dynamited two trucks distributing beer. (Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 20 Jul 91 p 15)

Roundup of 23-26 Jul Terrorist Activity

PA2907015591

[Editorial Report] Following are reports on terrorist activities in Peru between 23-26 July compiled from media monitored by Panama Bureau; only press agency items were selected for this report.

Paris AFP in Spanish at 0715 GMT on 25 July carries a report stating that the Armed Forces Joint Command today revealed that 25 people—an Army sergeant, four policemen, and 20 subversives—were killed in two armed clashes between joint Army-police patrols and a guerrilla column of the Maoist Shining Path in the Andean area of La Libertad Department."

It states that one of clashes took place on 23 July in Pataz Province, about 600 km northeast of Lima, when a 200-man guerrilla column tried to attack the mining town of Buldibuyo, and that the other clash took place near Paccha.

Madrid EFE in Spanish at 2359 GMT on 24 July carries a report stating that it was reported today that "eight people, including a doctor and three health technicians of the Health Ministry, were killed by Shining Path terrorists, who used explosives to attack the vehicle in which they were traveling."

The report adds that an official Health Ministry communique states that this attack was carried out on 23 July along a highway in Apurimac Department as they were returning to the Chalhuanca Health Center. Other casualties, the report states, include two medical students, the vehicle's driver, and a 10-year-old boy.

Madrid EFE at 0431 GMT on 25 July carries a report stating that "three people were killed by subversives in Ayacucho within the past 24 hours while a general blackout, presumably caused by terrorist attacks on the electric system, today also affected Lima, which was the target of two attacks involving explosives."

The report adds that one of the attacks was against the French Alliance building in the Lima District of Miraflores, which caused only slight structural damage. An explosive device was also hurled today at an electric appliance store in the Lince District causing considerable damage, the report states.

The report adds that, according to police reports, two policemen were killed on 23 July in Tambo, La Mar Province, by members of Shining Path. It also states that today presumed members of the same group gunned down teacher Teodoro Herrera, a candidate for town councilor in Huamanga Province of the United Left coalition of Marxist parties.

Hamburg DPA in Spanish at 1740 GMT on 26 July carries a report stating that "two policemen and a presumed subversive were killed today in the Lima District of San Juan de Miraflores when a patrol was attacked by an insurgent cell."

Suriname

Defense Minister Withdraws Resignation Request

PY3107190491 Paramaribo Radio Suriname
International in English 1730 GMT 31 Jul 91

[Text] Defense Minister Rupert Christopher has withdrawn his request for resignation. Christopher yesterday in a letter to President Kraag requested to be released of his duties as minister as well as a soldier.

He made this move following accusations made by a Dutch magazine to his person. The accusation varied from involvement in the drug trade to the killing of members of the rebel group of the Jungle Commando.

The Council of Ministers yesterday met to discuss the request for resignation by the defense minister and has advised the president not to accept the resignation. According to a report of the cabinet of the vice president, the government has concluded that the accusations aren't true, as a result of which there is no motive to dismiss the minister.

Following this, President Kraag requested Christopher to withdraw his request for resignation and the minister agreed with this.

Justice Minister Paul Sjak-Shie will request the attorney general to do everything in his power to bring clarity in this case according to a report from the cabinet of the vice president issued yesterday.